Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-133
Wednesday
14 July 1993

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FBIS-LAT-93-133 *14 July 1993*

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Ibero-American Summit

Ibero-American Businessmen To Submit Proposals

PY1307214093 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1411 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Report by Emilio Crespo]

[Text] Salvador, 13 Jul (EFE)—Modernizing the state, freeing it of regulations, and participating in international credits and the privatization process are some of the main ambitions of the Ibero-American businessmen who have met in Brazil to put their desires in writing and submit them to their respective governments.

Some 100 businessmen from Latin America, Spain, and Portugal arrived in Salvador, Bahia, on 12 July to prepare the document they will submit to the Third Ibero-American Summit to take place in this city on 15-16 July.

Sources for the organizers of the businessmen conference, in which 22 businessmen's associations and six international organizations and federations are participating, gave EFE a preview of the basic suggestions that will be submitted to the summit.

In addition to a less interventionist and more competitive state that also will encourage competition in the private sector, the businessmen want incentives in the education and professional training fields and for the private sector to be taken into account in the privatization process Latin America is experiencing.

The Ibero-American businessmen's organizations also agree, through documents and proposals, that the businessmen should be given greater access to international financial aid, which again is flowing into Latin America after a decade of contraction due to the foreign debt crisis.

After several years of exporting capital to service the foreign debt, Latin America has managed to again attract international credit, which already amounts to $10[illegible] billion per year.

The businessmen do not want the funds granted by international financial organizations, which were absorbed by the states before the crisis, to have the same destination now that free market principles rule the economic policies.

Moreover, this continent's businessmen have favorably accepted more liberal systems and acknowledge the need to eliminate protectionist measures, although they have benefited greatly from them, asserted Jose Maria Lacasa, director of the Spanish Confederation of Business Organizations (CEOE).

Lacasa told EFE that the decision to forsake a protectionist state, high custom rates, and trade barriers has yielded positive results in countries such as Chile and Mexico and brings hope to the Andean Region and the Southern Cone.

The Spanish businessman said the meeting in Brazil seeks a new "definition" of Latin America's economic relations with the EC.

Latin American, Spanish, Portuguese, and EC representatives wish to promote industrial cooperation, joint investments, and the transfer of technology separate from the commercial disagreements over products such as beef and bananas.

Last year, at the Second Ibero-American Summit in Madrid, the businessmen asked the chiefs of state for deep-rooted changes to favor the development of enterprises, technological cooperation, and trade in the region, and to give the private sector a more significant role in the regional integration process.

The following businessmen are attending the meeting in Brazil: Jose Maria Cuevas from Spain, Carlos Arturo Angel from Colombia, Jorge Blanco from Argentina, Jose Antonio Guzman from Chile, Kurt Freund from Ecuador, Eduardo Vallarino from Panama, and Fernando Cortina from Mexico.

Guatemala is represented by Mario Granai, Honduras by Juan Ferrera, Nicaragua by Ramiro Gurdian, Paraguay by Arturo Jara, El Salvador by Roberto Vilanova, Peru by Juan Antonio Aguirre, Venezuela by Freddy Rojas, Uruguay by Roberto Arce, Bolivia by Fernando Illanes, and Costa Rica by Marco Vinicio Ruiz.

Draft Declaration Negotiations

PY1307221693 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0541 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Report by Rafael Candanedo]

[Text] Salvador (Brazil), 13 Jul (EFE)—The Coordinating Committee of the Third Ibero-American Summit is negotiating the draft copy of the final declaration that will be approved on 16 July by the participating chiefs of states and governments.

The delegates of the committee, made up of five countries—Mexico, Spain, Brazil, Colombia, and Argentina—will continue today, 13 July, for the second day working on the negotiations and reorganization of the submitted proposals in 10 group meetings to prepare "a Program for Development," the summit's central item.

The delegates intend to issue a first draft of the final declaration that will organize and abridge all recommendations from the group meetings and facilitate the deliberations of the presidents during the seven working sessions that will be held on 15 and 16 July.

They also are studying the optimization and creation of new programs that will promote cooperation in the

Ibero-American framework, such as the proposed Ibero-American Planning Forum and a number of projects in different areas that might emerge in the group meetings.

These meetings also considered, within the Ibero-American framework and with the purpose of participating in the intended "Program for Development" approved by the chiefs of states and governments, issues on public health, education, culture, poverty, financing of social projects, science and technology, agriculture, childhood, and the growth of knowledge.

After the negotiations by the Coordinating Committee delegates and the group of 21 Ibero-American nations, the foreign ministers will discuss the draft copy of the Salvador Declaration on 14 July to submit it on 15 July for consideration by the participating presidents.

The delegates also have discussed two Brazilian proposals for cooperation in the areas of diplomatic training and public administration, and another Spanish proposal to strengthen the Ibero-American Science and Technology Program, attributed to the Spanish Foreign Ministry.

The Salvador Declaration has three main parts: one conceptual piece on the Program for Development, with social emphasis on UN plans; the expansion of cooperation lines through institutional support; and one piece on miscellaneous matters such as the exploitation of sea resources, a UN conference on population, and a meeting called by Chile on science and policy in Ibero-America.

In the first part of the document the presidents will stress the pillars of the Ibero-American forum, which were mentioned in the declarations of Guadalajara (1991) and Madrid (1992).

Principles of coexistence have been established in them, such as respect for the sovereignty of states, the self-determination of people, nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other nations, respect for human rights, and representative democracy.

The central issue of the Ibero-American Summit, "A Program for Development," was approved in January by the Coordinating Committee foreign ministers during the transfer of the pro tempore [preceding two words in Latin] secretariat from Spain, which was the site of the 1992 summit, to Brazil.

The dedication and the round of speeches—which should be no longer than seven minutes each—will be held on 15 July and will be chaired by Brazilian President Itamar Franco, the summit's host.

At the opening session, Franco will deliver a speech welcoming his colleagues and, immediately afterward, King Juan Carlos I of Spain will speak in his role as host of the 1992 Madrid summit.

The round of speeches will begin with Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, the only female president from the 21 Ibero-American nations.

The summit will continue on 16 July with the third working session, which will be chaired by Guatemalan President Ramiro de Leon Carpio, and immediately afterward the fourth session will be chaired by [President] Luis Alberto Lacalle of Uruguay, and the last two by Cesar Gaviria of Colombia, host country for the fourth summit scheduled for 1994.

Argentina's Menem To Meet Castro, Other Presidents

PY1307200093 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1423 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jul (NA)—Foreign Under Secretary Fernando Petrella today confirmed that President Carlos Menem will meet with Cuban leader Fidel Castro during the Third Ibero-American Summit that will start on 15 July in Salvador, Brazil.

Petrella explained that President Menem, beside meeting with Castro, will hold four similar meetings with Presidents Luis Alberto Lacalle (Uruguay), Cesar Gaviria Trujillo (Colombia), Jaime Paz Zamora (Bolivia), and Sixto Duran Ballen (Ecuador).

Petrella commented: "Cuba is making a great effort to democratize its economy, and we appreciate this, but Argentina still maintains that a rapid evolution towards a representative democracy is the bases for coexistence in the hemisphere."

Petrella noted that last week a mission of foreign and economy ministry officials travelled to Cuba to negotiate that country's debt with Argentina which amounts to more than $1 billion.

The Argentine delegation is headed by Juan Carlos Uranga, foreign ministry under secretary for Latin American affairs. Negotiations were resumed on the debt after a break of two years that was prompted by constant verbal clashes between Menem and Castro.

The rapprochement took place a week before the meeting in Washington between Menem and U.S. President Bill Clinton, who shows a less radical attitude toward Cuba than his predecessor George Bush.

Petrella admitted that the presence in Havana of former Deputy Cesar Jaroslavsky, where he underwent complex medical treatment, contributed to the relaxation of relations between the two governments "thanks to his excellent relationship with Castro."

Petrella noted: "Our relationship with the Cuban people is excellent, there is a constant flow of businessmen and sportsmen. There is even a group of Cuban experts working at the Sports Secretariat, but the Argentine stance regarding democracy in Cuba remains unchanged."

in a statement to a radio station, Petrella explained that Menem's meeting with anti-Castro Cubans in exile proves that Argentina "is willing to talk," seeking to establish democracy in that Caribbean island "just as it backed Dante Caputo's negotiations in Haiti."

Cuba's Foreign Minister Robaina Arrives in Salvador

FL1407023193 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Report by special envoy Gladys Rubio—live]

[Text] Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina arrived in Salvador this morning. He stepped onto the soil of Salvador at 1015 hours and talked to Cuban television, after a Bahiana tied a Senhor do Bomfim bracelet around his left wrist. This strip bracelet is tied on with three knots, and one gets a wish with each knot; each knot means more luck.

[Begin Robaina recording] While in transit through Venezuela, we were able to meet with President Velasquez—in the first place, to express to him the satisfaction...[rephrases] what it meant for us to meet, because I was greatly interested, especially, in learning about the nation's real situation. He explained things to us and told about the difficult circumstances under which he reached his position of responsibility, and the immediate plans he is trying to carry out. But above all, he expressed great interest in the Cuban reality, and we had to explain things to him. We had the possibility of explaining not only the difficult situation we are going through but what we all are most interested in: our possibilities of not only resisting, but coming out ahead and developing ourselves.

We did not have time to do anything else, but of course there was an extensive meeting with the media, where there were two things one could expect them to ask about: They wanted to know, especially, how Cuba manages to exist. Why it exists, and thanks to what. And what we were going to do in Bahia, and what we were hoping would come of it.

As to how we exist, we insisted that it is only because of the masses we have, and because of the intelligence and the cultural and technical qualifications of those masses. That is how we can confront a period like the one we are facing at present. [end Robaina recording]

In the afternoon, the Cuban foreign minister met with journalists from important Brazilian daily papers and with the O Globo Television Network. He also met with Cuban reporters, at 1630 hours; at 1800 hours, he attended the presentation of the book "History Will Absolve Me."

The foreign ministers of Costa Rica and Colombia are already in Salvador, as is OAS secretary general Joao Baena Soares. Also today, the prestigious Frei Betto held the attention of the participants in the Latin American meeting of Indian, Negro, and People's organizations. Frei Betto's speech became a dialog with the audience on topics related to the Latin American reality, such as the negative effects of neoliberal economic processes and the imperative need for the oppressed of America to unite. And of course, Cuba was spoken of with great affection at this meeting.

[Begin first unidentified speaker recording, in Portuguese] The people of Cuba deserve the title, heroic people of Latin America. [end recording]

[Begin second unidentified speaker recording, in Portuguese] The history of the Cuban people, of the construction of its very own alternative as a nation, is important for the world. The blockade imposed by the Yankees is one of the most serious things existing for mankind, at the present time. [end recording]

A fair in connection with the summit will open tonight. Cuba has a stand [preceding word in English] at this fair, and tomorrow we will report on the fair as well as on the activities of the Cuban delegation.

This is Gladys Rubio, live over Cuban television from the third summit, for this newscast.

Confirms Castro To Attend Summit

FL1407010993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Just moments ago, Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina held a news conference with domestic journalists assigned to the Third Ibero-American Presidential Summit. After commenting on the main issues to be analyzed by the presidents of the countries attending the summit between 15 and 16 July in Bahia, Robaina said:

[Begin recording] We trust and hope the summit will reach some of these goals. I say some of the goals because I insist that none of these mechanisms or meetings, as important as they may be, will meet the demands of the Latin American people. I have seen some of their expressions in the newspapers, where the only thing the people demand from the summit is an end to poverty. Well, I believe poverty will not end with these meetings alone. We need for these meetings to show how we can alleviate that poverty. This is the reason I would agree more with a Bahia resident's opinion than with someone else's theoretical explanation of the big differences between the North and South, which is something that is well understood by the people of the South. [end recording]

In his meeting with journalists, Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina confirmed that the Cuban President, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, will attend the Ibero-American Summit. [passage omitted]

Discusses Summit Goals

PA1407024593 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Statements by Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina upon his arrival in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil on 13 July—recorded]

[Text] To me the Ibero-American summit is tremendously important; first in the preparations that have been made for the meeting, and in all fairness we must say it aims to continue the work of the Guadalajara summit. Whether we achieve that will depend on what begins in a few hours and on our spirit of cooperation. Life has shown us that speeches do not integrate us. We must come to Bahia. The Cuban delegation has brought specific integration proposals. Neither progress nor integration can be achieved through economic means in countries and a region where the economies are so weak and dependent on the power structure. That is why we want to address nobler topics. Our proposals focus primarily on many things that Cuba has and that we think America needs. For example, we have important community cultural exchange programs, important educational exchange programs that yield results, scientific exchange programs that America needs, and medical equipment and medicines we think are important. And why not consider tourism as a means of integration?

The specific proposals are there. We are tired of hearing theories and explanations on how the rich have grown richer and the poor poorer. I understand perfectly well that the gap between North and South is widening, but it solves nothing and countries solve nothing by being told again and again that the gap is widening. We need to find ways to prevent the gap from widening further. I think that is why we are meeting.

I insist on asking whether we trust the mechanism and whether the summit will reach its goal. We prefer to appreciate its value; to meet without having the empire give us orders. Given the initial value of this meeting, we think there is much more to do to take advantage of this opportunity than simply discussing whether it will yield results.

I also wonder whether some models have failed [estallado]. I think the models that have produced lamentable situations, especially for peoples in current times, are true examples that models imposed on us for a long time have not worked the way they were explained to us in theory. I do not think the model we need now is found inside a drawer. The model each country needs depends on circumstances, realities, and very (?particular) problems. Let us follow the model each of our countries need.

Let us find means to communicate and understand each other as best we can. We trust and hope the summit will achieve some of these objectives. I say it will achieve some objectives because I continue to insist that none of the mechanisms or any meeting, regardless of how important it is, will solve the demands of the residents of this place. I read newspaper articles giving the summit a sole piece of advice: to eliminate poverty. I do not think poverty can be eliminated by meetings alone. Meetings must produce solutions for easing poverty. That is why I am in closer agreement with the opinions of a Bahia resident than with the theoretical explanations on the great differences between North and South, because no one knows it better than those in the South.

Discusses Clinton Administration, Summit

PA1407020093 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0105 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Report by Jesus Guevara Morin and Walter Sotomayor]

[Text] Salvador de Bahia, 13 Jul (NOTIMEX)—Cuba has noticed that U.S. President Bill Clinton's administration is using "less aggressive" language, Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina stated here on 13 July.

"Speaking of the new U.S. Administration, I think it is appropriate to say it uses less aggressive language than previous administrations," the Cuban foreign minister told NOTIMEX.

"In my opinion, we have responded in kind, but that is all," Robaina added after stating, "there is no reason for more enthusiasm."

"We understand we are not a priority because they have many problems to solve. They are facing a lot of internal pressure not to establish these relations. That is why we would rather have them take their time and act within a framework of respect," he added.

The foreign minister said: "We would obviously be at their disposal if the proper conditions are created." He also confirmed that Cuba has always been willing to talk with the United States without conditions, to meet at the negotiating table based on mutual respect.

Robaina rejected the possibility of using mediators for such a dialogue because "the United States respects a united Latin America much more than an isolated mediator."

The official said his government is waiting for the international community to reaffirm its rejection and condemnation of the blockade the United States has maintained against Cuba for 34 years; adding that the rejection of that aggression "is a priority" for his country.

The Cuban foreign minister emphasized it is important that the Third Ibero-American Summit not become a meeting of intentions only. He added it should at least result in the adoption of initial, specific steps to solve the region's problems.

"The summit must not be a summit of intentions. It should at least embark on the road toward solving problems," he emphasized.

During the meeting, which will bring together the heads of state and government of Latin America, Spain, and Portugal on 15 and 16 July, Cuba's efforts will be directed at drafting a document reflecting the common will to carry out such "specific actions."

"The main issue is the need for development, and as a resident of this city said, for poverty to end," Robaina added after announcing his government will make specific proposals for cooperation in education, culture, science, and health.

This official who has led Cuban diplomacy for five months now said that "Cuba is able to provide such cooperation and Latin America needs it; while Latin America has things that Cuba needs."

Robaina said the specific issues that could surface during the summit do not necessarily have to be included in the final document. The basic issue is for the leaders to show their firm determination to achieve those goals.

Robaina said Cuba is an important element in Latin America's social and commercial relationships, given the region's need to quickly redirect its efforts toward closer markets.

One of the possibilities for increasing relations came with the beginning of direct talks with several of the continent's governments and also with countries and business groups.

The foreign minister affirmed that Cuba sees Latin America as a top priority in its efforts to bring investment to the island.

Robaina also announced that the relations between his country and the Vatican were normal and in full development.

He also said the Catholic Church plays an important role in Cuba and that the differences that have existed are not due to the church itself but to the political attitude of some of its representatives.

Meets Venezuela's Velasquez

FL1307133993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina said that Cuba's main exigency is to find an economic model and a way to establish itself in today's complex world. In statements to the press in Venezuela, where he met with Venezuelan President Ramon Velasquez in the past few hours, the Cuban foreign minister affirmed that the Cuban economic situation is difficult but that the Cuban people are prepared to deal with any problem.

Robaina also reiterated the position of the Cuban Government to begin talks with the United States with the only condition being mutual respect. He also emphasized that unfortunately there is no reason for excessive enthusiasm in contrast to Washington's attitude toward Cuba, even though the language of the current U.S. Administration is less aggressive than previous administrations.

On another subject, Robaina, who visited Venezuela on his way to Salvador de Bahia, Brazil where he will participate in the third Ibero-American Summit, said that Cuba is interested in redeeming the original principles of integration, which were strengthened at the first summit in Guadalajara.

Cuba's Ambassador on Relations With Brazil

FL1307202693

[Editorial Report] Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0032 GMT on 13 July carries live a news conference with Cuban Ambassador to Brazil Jorge Bolanos Suarez on relations between Cuba and Brazil.

In response to reporter Felix Fernando Garrido's question, Ambassador Bolanos said that relations between Cuba and Brazil had reached a time of development and consolidation. Cuba began relations with Brazil in 1986 following a 24-year hiatus. He said that today, after six and a half years, all the necessary diplomatic conditions to consolidate relations exist. Cuba has signed cultural and partial trade agreements, which benefit both Cuba and Brazil, as well as scientific-technical cooperation and consular agreements.

With regard to trade, Ambassador Bolanos conceded that this year's trade will not be the best, under the Brazilian or the Cuban conditions; but approximately $100 million should be generated by both countries.

Reporter Alba Betancourt asked Ambassador Bolanos about future prospects for Cuba in Brazil. Ambassador Bolanos reported the Brazilian health minister had recently given him good news in that three exportable Cuban products—interferon, vaccine against meningitis b-c, and vaccine against hepatitis-b—had been accepted not only by the state but also by the private sector. He explained that these products can now be sold in private pharmacies whereas they could previously be imported only by the Public Health Ministry. He said an inventory had been made of the possible exportable products to Brazil and if Cuba had the necessary financing and exporting capability, Cuba could already be exporting approximately $450 million in products to Brazil.

He indicated that the Brazilian market offers 85 percent of the products Cuba used to import from the socialist bloc, but with the additional advantage that these products offer good quality and technology at competitive prices. Bolanos also noted that at times these products are closer because Cuba can ship them from the port of Santos, Brazil.

He added that Cuba favors the integration of Latin America and that relations with Brazil are promising. He asserted that Cuba is Brazil's first trading partner in the Caribbean and Central America. He noted Cuba is one

of the four or five Latin American countries capable of developing reliable, ongoing trade with Brazil, and added that Cuba is interested in Brazilian technology.

He claimed that Latin America imports $1.2 million of items yearly and that Cuba, Mexico, and Brazil produce 100 percent of those items; if it were to integrate, Latin America could garner all that money for itself.

The 39-minute program concluded with reporter Felix Fernando Garrido thanking the reporters and Ambassador Bolanos for their participation in the program.

Cuba

Minfar Delegation Inspects Central Army Tank Unit

FL1307154893 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] From 6 July to the present, several Central Army units and defense forces from Jovellanos Municipality, Matanzas have been the site of an inspection by the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [Minfar].

Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, first vice minister of the Minfar and chief of the General Staff, headed the commission which verified the practical results of preparation and defense readiness and the maintenance and preservation of equipment and weaponry. He also verified the political-moral state and preparedness of personnel, compliance with the commander in chief's directives for the special period, work by innovators and efficiency experts, the condition of the military training theater, and the development of the food program.

As part of this inspection, tactical maneuvers were held this past weekend using actual combat weapons in order to increase preparation and combat readiness levels of the units in the fight against enemy sea and air landings. These maneuvers consisted in repulsing [word indistinct] aerials, the harassment and weakening of aggressors through ambush, containment, and annihilation. The troops were supported by long distance artillery and cooperation by zone and municipal defense councils. The maneuvers were characterized by organization, marksmanship demonstrated by the participants, their mastery of the equipment and weaponry, and the soldiers' enthusiasm, mainly youths, who dedicated their efforts toward the 40th anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault and the 32d anniversary of the participating great tank unit.

Mitrans Note on Limited Bus, Train Services

FL1307202893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The high level of closures of automobile and train stations hinders meeting current demands. For this reason, the Ministry of Transportation [Mitrans] reports that it is not possible to increase train and national bus departure capabilities during the vacation season. The Mitrans note earnestly asks for the understanding of organizations and the general public and urges that they not jam the stations and agencies in an effort to obtain tickets because the capability no longer exists and there will be no additional service.

The Mitrans also called on the population to adopt the same attitude toward the use of urban buses, where, during coming months, a similiarly difficult situation will exist.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Former Bahamian PM Speaks on Cuba Reintegration Into Region

FL1307171593 Bridgetown CANA in English 1635 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, July 13, CANA—Former Bahamas Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling is lobbying for the reintegration of economically-crippled Cuba into the Western Hemisphere. Sir Lynden, now the parliamentary opposition leader here, will give the opening address at the second Euromoney Conference on business, trade, and investment opportunities in Cancun, Mexico, on Thursday [15 July].

"My view is that Cuba ought to be reintegrated into the economy of the whole region because that will benefit the whole region, including the Bahamas," said Sir Lynden.

The Cuban economy has virtually collapsed as a result of a 30 year old United States economic embargo, coupled with a loss of vital aid resulting from the demise of the Soviet Union. Sir Lynden said Cuba's integration into the regional and global economy should take place regardless of what form of government was in place in Havana. He referred to the current case of China which, with Cuba, is one of the few remaining states adhering to communism.

"China is being reintegrated into the world economy, and Vietnam is being reintegrated into the world economy," he said. "It doesn't matter what their government is. What's that got to do with it?

"We're talking about trade. We're talking about business. We're talking about jobs.... We're not talking about politics."

Asked if he will be remunerated for his appearance at the conference, Sir Lynden replied: "I don't know. I really don't know." Sir Lynden said he understood conference speakers are paid for their services, "but I didn't inquire."

"I'm on the international circuit now, so it really doesn't matter," he said.

Sir Lynden, who ceased being prime minister after his party lost general elections last August, denied that his visit to Cuba with Lady Pindling in January was connected with this week's engagement in Mexico. At the time, he said, he visited Cuba to see what the country was doing with respect to its tourist development programme.

The first Euromoney Conference was held in June 1992, when a group of more than 150 investors joined the sponsor, Euromoney, in Cuba to hear about investment opportunities. Speakers at that conference included Sir Edward Heath, a former prime minister of Britain, and Cuban President Fidel Castro. The second meeting takes place between July 14-16.

On July 16, all the conference delegates will be flown to Cuba for a day of in-depth discussions with senior

Cuban officials and one-to-one meetings with potential business partners in Cuba. The day and conference will close with a reception hosted by the Cuban Government.

"Since the last conference, much has changed both domestically and internationally in Cuba," says a brochure promoting the conference. "In Cuba there is a new political structure and new investment regulations which impact on investment and business decisions." The Cuban government has identified 140 additional top- priority opportunities for foreign investors, the brochure says.

Barbados

BLP Leader Forde Steps Down Due To Ill Health

FL1307174093 Bridgetown CANA in English 1718 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 13, CANA—Opposition leader Henry Forde on Tuesday announced he was stepping down as leader of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) because of ill health. Forde told a news conference he was also relinquishing the post of parliamentary opposition leader, effective month-end. He, however, plans to stay on as a member of Parliament.

Haiti

Paul Warns Against Attempts To Block New York Meeting

FL1307235693 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1900 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Port-au-Prince Mayor Evans Paul, member of the FNCD delegation for the negotiations in New York and who will participate in the 14 July meeting, has warned against attempts to block the meeting organized by the United Nations. Paul, who was referring to the presence in the parliamentary delegation of those elected on 18 January, recalled that his party, FNCD, has never recognized the contested election.

Furthermore, Paul stated that FNCD would not support a prime ministerial candidate at the discussions in New York. He called the letter published in LE NOUVELLISTE, proposing Victor Benoit as prime minister, a slip-up within the party.

Delegation Leaves for Meeting

FL1307212193 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Report by Edner Jean from the parliament in Port-au-Prince; in Creole—live; italicized names are senators elected or reelected during the 18 January elections]

[Text] A delegation of parliamentarians will leave Port-au-Prince on 13 July at 2000 GMT to participate in the meeting of Haitian political parties. We are in communication with Edner Jean who will tell us about the composition of this delegation.

[Jean] Yes, the news has been confirmed. Senator Serge Joseph [of the Alliance for Parliamentary Cohesion, ACP] has just told us about it. The parliamentary delegations will leave Port-au-Prince for New York on the afternoon of 13 July at 2000 GMT. The ACP delegation consists of Senators *Dejean Belizaire* [leader of the National Patriotic Movement of 28 November and former president of the Senate], who will head the delegation; Julio Larosiliere; Ebrane Cadet; *Amos Andre* [of the Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti]; *Margareth Martin* [of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti]; and *Osny Eugene*. Deputies attending are Rita Frederic Moncoeur [of the Union for National Reconciliation] and Pierre Simon Georges. We should not forget to point out the presence within this delegation of Sen. Thomas Eddy Dupiton [president of the Senate office controlled by the ACP] and Deputy Antoine, who received special invitations from Dante Caputo.

As you can see, there is a strong presence of the 18 January senators within this delegation. Asked about that, Sen. Joseph told us that this presence was necessary so the question of normalization of the parliament can be settled during the dialogue that will take place starting 14 July in New York. The senator also denied the information according to which the 18 January senators, the ACP senators in general, allegedly accept the proposals worked out by the normalization committee of the Chamber of Deputies. The senator has just told us that they are analyzing these proposals and that one can expect a solution between now and the end of the New York meeting. That is our news from the parliament for the moment.

(We have also) other statements made during the day. For example, Deputy Antoine Joseph, president of the Chamber of Deputies of the ACP, promised to make statements to the media a little later.

Caputo Adviser on Meeting, Participants

FL1307163493 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Report on news conference by Leandro Despouy, adviser to Dante Caputo, at the Montana Hotel in Port-au-Prince on 12 July; italicized passages in Creole—recorded]

[Excerpts] During a news conference held at the Montana Hotel on 12 July, Leandro Despouy, an adviser to Dante Caputo, implied that before long, the 18 January elections will not be a problem. Despouy disclosed the great secret of the New York meeting which will take place on 14 July between the four presidents of the parliament. According to Despouy, there are nevertheless positive signs. Gary Belizaire has this report.

[Belizaire] *Representatives of the various groups within the parliament, that is the Alliance [for Parliamentary Cohesion, ACP], the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD], the Socialist Bloc, the Constitutionalist [Anti-Corruption] Bloc at the Senate, and the [pro-Aristide] Presidential Commission will participate in the 14 July meeting in New York. This is what Leandro Despouy, Dante Caputo's political adviser, said during a news conference. According to Despouy, the number in the delegation went from three to five plus the four presidents of the two chambers of the parliament. There are also several political advisers.*

[Despouy] We started with the idea of three representatives per delegation, but we finally ended up with five representatives per delegation. As you know, despite the (?situation) being experienced by some parliamentary blocs, the ACP parliamentarians issued an invitation which has been accepted in principle and [words indistinct]. The five members of the delegation [word indistinct] the same as the bloc of the socialist party, Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti. The other delegation will be that of the FNCD. As you know, there is a group that is identified as the constitutionalist group in the Senate.

[Belizaire] *According to Despouy, every possible effort was made so more people could participate in the meeting. But all other political parties and sectors in the country, that will not participate in that meeting, will participate in a national conference which will be convened by the next prime minister. The agenda for the meeting remains the same. It is an agreement on a political truce, a social pact, (?and laws) for the transition and the normalization of the parliament. As regards the normalization of the parliament, the Argentine said that there are clear signs that show that a solution is about to be found to the question of the 18 January elections. Despouy stated that progress has been made in this sense because the parliamentarians appear to have found a provisional solution.*

[Despouy] On that score and on the side of the concerned parliamentarians, that is the ACP parliamentarians, clear and constructive signs have already surfaced to resolve the dilemma. On the one hand, Deputy Antoine Joseph and a group of parliamentarians established a committee for the normalization of the parliament. One of the subjects which was relayed to us by Deputy Joseph supposedly consists of asking that the parliamentarians elected on 18 January refrain from sitting at the parliament until an arbitration committee definitely rules on the matter. [passage omitted]

[Belizaire] *Still concerning the 14 July meeting, Despouy does not yet have the confirmation of all the people in the delegations. He, however, named several people in the delegations at this time. Those people include Serge Gilles and Duly Brutus for the Socialist Bloc, Senator Jacques Rony Mondestin for the Constitutionalist Bloc, and Victor Benoit for the FNCD. The complete list of the participants in the New York meeting will be published soon.*

Political Class Responsible for Enforcing Agreement

FL1307121593 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in Creole 1030 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Now that the Governors Island agreement has been signed by President Aristide and Army chief, Lieutenant-General Raoul Cedras, it is up to the Haitian political class to prove equal to its tasks. This political class will have to find the means for an agreement that can put the country on its feet again with regard to the institutions and the Constitution. The 18 political parties represented in parliament will meet at the UN headquarters in New York on 14 July for a political dialogue aimed at reaching a political truce and at promoting a social pact to create the conditions necessary for a peaceful transition, to reach an agreement on procedures that will enable the Haitian parliament to become normal again, to reach an agreement allowing parliament to quickly ratify the appointment of the prime minister, and to reach an agreement for adoption of laws necessary to the transition.

The National Front for Change and Democracy, FNCD, urges the parties and their parliamentarians to make commitments to normalize the functioning of Parliament through the departure of the disputed parliamentarains stemming from the 18 January elections. This view is in opposition to that of Dejean Belizaire, former president of the National Assembly, who stated that only cohabitation with the 18 January parliamentarians will make this normalization possible. [passage omitted]

Sen. Serge Gilles says he is ready to resign if it is necessary to disentangle the situation. Backed by Deputy Merisier, he is waiting for the latest decisions of the parliamentary committee in charge of presenting a report on the normalization of parliament to the New York conference. According to Alexandre Medard, disputed president of the office controlled by the constitutionalist bloc in the Chamber of Deputies, it is a waste of time and effort because Antoine Joseph, president of the office controlled by the Alliance for Parliamentary Cohesion, is not authorized to form any committee for the normalization of parliament in the lower chamber.

ALAH Accuses Caputo Adviser of Violating Agreement

FL1307212493 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Reynold Georges [senator under President Leslie Francois Manigat] of the Alliance for the Liberation and the Progress of Haiti, ALAH, denounces the violation of the Governors Island agreement by those who imposed it. He points an accusing finger at Leandro Despouy, Dante Caputo's political adviser in charge of organizing the national conference scheduled for 14 July at UN headquarters in New York. Georges demands a plan and timetable and particularly insists that there be no discrimination:

[Begin recording, in Creole] We denounce the behavior of Mr. Despouy, who is acting as a proconsul, as a Haitian

head of state while violating the agreement that was signed in New York and provided for the leaders of the political parties represented in the parliament to participate in the meeting to be held at the United Nations.

Although we had reservations about it....[changes thought] Why at the United Nations? Why not in Haiti? Although we always said that everyone should participate [in it] regardless of whether they have parliamentarians [representing them] in the parliament, we in AIAH have parliamentarians; we have at least three parliamentarians in the parliament. We are represented. We, however, believe that, on the one hand, the [meeting] should be held here; on the other hand, all the other political parties that we consulted and that have members in the parliament did not know even on the morning of 12 July that...[rephrases] how things would be done, what would be the modes, what would be the protocol. They do not yet know anything.

This means that all that Mr. Despouy is saying is [only] in his mind and that it is his friends...[changes thought] that he has his own people who will represent the country. I believe that what Despouy has done divides the Haitian political class. This will exacerbate the crisis. We already disapprove of all that they will do in New York, at the United Nations.

Furthermore, we say that Despouy has violated the agreement because what is being done is not what is written in the agreement. We have come here, we have taken a firm stand on that matter, and we denounce it; we say the entire political class should meet on that question. [end recording]

Politicians, Businessmen Reportedly To Meet Aristide

FL1307163793 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Several Haitian politicians are due to meet in New York on 14 July. Haitian businessmen will also soon be invited to meet in the United States. Heads of the biggest Haitian commercial and industrial firms, representatives of the socio-professional organizations, various businessmen, members of big businesses are reportedly invited to meet with President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who will be in Miami for the occasion.

Invitations have reportedly been sent by Robert Malval, possible prime minister chosen by Father Aristide. Heads of U.S. firms already established in Haiti would also participate in this meeting, as well as several U.S. legislators and numerous representatives of the World Bank and the United Nations Development Program. The meeting should be held in Miami from 20 to 23 July.

CONACOM Sets Criteria for New Prime Minister

FL1307211793 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] There are considerations to be taken at the meeting of politicians in New York and the choice of a possible prime minister. CONACOM, National Congress of Democratic Movements, establishes the criteria that must be considered for sociopolitical rapprochement and institutional stability in choosing the new prime minister. The National Congress of Democratic Movements thinks that the new prime minister must be a moderate with a reassuring political image and solid support in the parliament. Dunois Eric Cantave, secretary for political affairs, speaks on behalf of CONACOM: [Begin recording] This choice should come out of an overall democratic concertation among all concerned partners and all parties involved in the crisis. In addition to the criteria established in the 1987 Constitution, the prime minister should be:

A man from a political party that did not participate in or benefit from the coup d'etat;

A moderate, with a reassuring political image and capable of maintaining national concord;

A man with solid parliamentary support;

A man acceptable to the various institutions and sectors of national life;

A man of principle, a committed democrat who has proven himself;

A politically competent man, capable of evolving with the demands of the free and democratic parliamentary game and able to work with the president within their respective constitutional attributions;

A man with a general knowledge of Haitian political, economic, social, and cultural reality;

A man who accepts the general policy set by a government of concord and openness;

A man with a great capacity for negotiation and initiative, who supports the resumption of international cooperation and national mobilization for economic progress. [end recording]

Normalization of Parliament Still Under Debate

FL1307222493 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] A compromise could be found in the Chamber of Deputies regarding the normalization of the parliament on the eve of the Haitian politicians' meeting in New York. Normalization remains a subject of debate within the parliament, where there are differing viewpoints on the meaning of the word and its translation into political reality. For some, normalization involves the dismissal, pure and simple, of the 18 January legislators; for others, it means the return to the assemblies of the National Front for Change and Democracy, FNCD, legislators. Ansy-Rose Resignac filed a report: [Begin recording] The senators and deputies of the Alliance For Parliamentary Cohesion, who have consistently agreed on the various parliamentary acts taken

in the past 15 months, are probably going to find themselves head-to-head regarding the opportunity to void the 18 January legislative elections.

Senator Thomas Eddy Dupiton and his group let it be understood that they will not give up their position at the risk of supporting nullification of the 45th Legislature. According to them, the legislators stemming from the consultations held by the consensus government will not resign; but in the lower chamber, it seems that they want to get rid of the four deputies whose presence in the Legislative Palace is contested.

The normalization commission recently created in the Chamber of Deputies further proposed that those four deputies be temporarily relieved of their functions. Furthermore, the commission asked both deputies claiming to be president of the lower chamber to call a joint session, to allow the deputies of the two principal blocs to debate normalization during a session in which those elected 18 January will not be authorized to participate.

This split within the Alliance, which is not too tolerant of President Aristide, could be explained very simply: Some strategic motives have arisen out of the new climate. In the lower chamber, the dismissal of the four 18 January deputies will not bother Alliance deputies, greatly in the majority thanks to the support of the socialist group. They will always be in the majority facing the FNCD.

At the Senate of the Republic, the picture is different. The Alliance, with nine members excised, will become a minority of eight against nine senators from the anticonstitutionalist, anticorruption bloc essentially made up of FNCD legislators.

Recall that Alliance deputies never officially stated their clear opinion on nullifying the 18 January elections, despite private statements by more than one in favor of this concession. In any case, the dismissal of those legislators would lead to a reshuffle, at least in the presidency of the National Assembly, and therefore a more comfortable position for the coalition supporting the ousted president in the parliament. [end recording]

ORNADEJ Says Parliamentarians Elected 18 Jan Should Withdraw

FL1307213393 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpt] The National Organization for the Defense of the Young [ORNADEJ] considers that the [Governors Island] agreement will lift the country out of its impasse. ORNADEJ, one of the organizations that supported the 18 January elections, is demanding the departure of those whom it supported. The following is a report by Nyrva Massillon:

[Begin recording, in Creole] ORNADEJ advises that it supports the 3 July agreement even though it is aware that this agreement is not quite to the advantage of the little people. [word indistinct] ORNADEJ General Coordinator Abner Francois believes the people can use this agreement just as they used the 16 December 1990 elections that brought Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power. They should keep struggling to take over this agreement (?which) must consolidate their powers. ORNADEJ, which is one of the organizations that supported the 18 January elections, advises that it is now time for everyone to compromise. Professor Abner Francois, ORNADEJ coordinator, asks those who were elected on 18 January to withdraw from the parliament to allow resolution of the crisis. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Conapop Speaks on U.S. Meeting, Agreement

FL1307180193 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpt] In reaction to a meeting to be held in Miami, a political organization denounces the sectarian character of the initiative. According to the Confederation of the People's Organizations [Conapop], the meeting was initiated by Robert Malval, possible prime minister chosen by President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Conapop continues, however, to lend its support to the Governors Island Accord and to its principal signatories, President Aristide and General Cedras. Conapop also thanks the international community for its support and efforts in the search for a solution to the Haitian political crisis. [passage omitted]

PAIN Leader Dejoie Favors Repatriation of Negotiations

FL1307202993 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpts] The leader of the National Agricultural and Industrial Party, PAIN, calls for the repatriation of inter-Haitian negotiations. The national conference should be held in Haiti, Louis Dejoie II, president of the party, said in a message to political party officials 48 hours before the scheduled dialogue among the parties at UN headquarters in New York under the aegis of the United Nations. The PAIN leader (?maintains the idea) of the ratification of the prime minister of national concord who will be designated by President-in-exile Jean-Bertrand Aristide under the provisions of the Governors Island agreement. Dejoie (?hopes) the parliament will be normalized and demands the departure of the parliamentarians elected in the controversial 18 January elections. [passage omitted]

PAIN leader Louis Dejoie II said he was ready to participate in this 14 July meeting and to defend the thesis of the departure of those elected on 18 January for the normalization of the parliament. PAIN believes that a political truce and the elaboration of a new social pact are necessary to democratic transition. PAIN has not been invited to participate in this meeting scheduled for 14 July.

Norwegian Ship Incident Investigation, Charges Pursued

PA1407044193 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 0330 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Report by Martin Carmona Torres]

[Text] The Federal Environmental Protection Agency has said it will request an in-depth report from the Navy Secretariat on the status of the Norwegian ship Betula. The Agency said that if there is any environmental damage, the authorities will take firm legal steps against the responsible parties.

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency will request information from the Navy Secretariat so it can take action against the responsible parties in keeping with Articles 1,913 and 1,914 of the Civil Code if the Betula's sinking causes any damage to the environment or population.

Santiago Onate Laborde, director of the Environmental Protection Agency, made the announcement during a news conference. He said that so far it is not known whether the 400,000 tons of sulphuric acid are still inside the ship. If the sulphuric acid were spilled into the sea, the environmental damage would be very high, Onate added.

[Begin Onate recording] Once we have the results, and in keeping with the damage sustained or the damage that may be sustained by the coming salvage maneuvers, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency will exercise its authority and file legal charges to demand reparations for damages as established by Articles 1,913 and 1,914 of the Civil Code. [end recording]

Rear Admiral Alberto Vasquez De La Cerda stated that the investigations conducted by the Navy Secretariat since 27 June, two days before the ship ran aground, revealed that so far there has been no damage to the environment or population on the Michoacan State coast.

After explaining how weather conditions, Hurricane Calvin, and a tropical storm along the coast of the Lazaro Cardenas port in Michoacan State prevented and complicated the salvage works of the Betula, Rear Admiral Alberto Vasquez asserted that within 72 hours at the most it will be known whether the Norwegian ship is still holding the sulphuric acid and how it will be salvaged.

In the meantime, Antonio Bazan Carballo, general director of ports and merchant marine of the Communications and Transport Secretariat, said the Betula arrived in Mexico with all security certificates required by Mexican authorities, therefore it was allowed to work along the national coast.

Official Says 'Very Little Damage'

PA1307203993 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1558 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jul (NOTIMEX)—If weather permits, all the fuel and sulphuric acid still in the hold of the Norwegian registered ship Betula may be removed in the next five to 10 days, it was reported in Mexico City.

Alberto Vasquez de la Cerda, the Navy Secretariat's deputy oceanography director, said every precaution is being taken to prevent accidents during the fuel and sulphuric acid removal operation.

He said that to boost security and vigilance two Marco-type launches, one of which is in Guaymas, Sonora State, and the other in Salina Cruz, Oaxaca State, have been ordered to the Lazaro Cardenas coast, Michoacan State, to help with the work.

Vasquez said the work to be performed will consist first of removing the remaining fuel and sulphuric acid from the Betula and then towing the ship to the Petatalco Trench, where it will be sunk.

He said the Navy Secretariat has on occasion refloated ships that had sunk completely, therefore the Betula, which is only one-third under water, should pose no problems.

He said the cargo ship has inflicted "very little damage" on the Lazaro Cardenas coast in Western Mexico, and that a report by some environmental groups on a possibly damaging spill at the site of the accident "is exaggerated."

Vasquez said, however, that there is a "brownish" stain over an area 2 km long, 1.5 meters wide, and 2 km deep. The damage is very minor, considering that Mexico has 11,952.7 km of coast, he asserted.

The stain is made up mostly of oil from the ship's engine plus debris from river discharges.

He reiterated that the damage is minimal and that even more serious incidents have taken place in recent years as the result of natural phenomena such as hurricanes.

Vasquez reported that the Betula has all the operating permits required by Mexico and an international insurance company.

Vasquez said in conclusion that the ship was not overloaded because the materials carries on some occasions are more dense and occupy less space.

Lawsuit Over Acid Spill 'Possible'

PA1307202993 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The Government Secretariat has issued a press communique pointing out that the Mexican Government may file a lawsuit for the possible damage caused

by the tanker Betula. To this end, experts have arrived at the site of the accident to examine the true impact of the grounding.

Meanwhile, the ecology group Green Peace has denounced that fishermen in Lazaro Cardenas, Michoacan, are already suffering the consequences of the sulfuric acid spill. We have information on two reports regarding the incident.

Fishermen in Lazaro Cardenas are alarmed and concerned over the consequences they are already experiencing from the sulfuric acid spilled from the shipwrecked Norwegian tanker Betula in Playa Azul. Fisherman Gerardo Alcantara spoke at a Green Peace news conference.

[Begin Alcantara recording] Fellow fishermen are suffering skin problems they never had before. [end recording]

So far 15 fishermen have burns on their faces and feet, Alcantara said. He added that the fishermen are greatly concerned over their means of survival now that their sole means of making a living has been contaminated and people are not going to eat fish. Alcantara stressed that 525 families depend on the fishing trade in addition to merchants and shipbuilders.

The Betula arrived in Port Lazaro Cardenas in Michoacan with 9,000 tons of sulphuric acid on 24 June; 5,000 tons of the acid spilled during the accident, and according to unofficial reports there are still 4,000 tons aboard.

The Secretariat of Fisheries has described the ecology groups' reports as alarmist and exaggerated. The secretariat has announced that within no more than 10 days the sulfuric acid will be extracted. Today more than ever, perhaps, due to many reasons we all have in mind, it will be worth while to resolve this problem immediately. I say this because at a time like this in Mexico, when certain ecological groups are conducting intense debates regarding the impact of the free trade agreement on the ecology, it will be good to prove that Mexico wants to resolve its problems. Although it is very important not to lose sight of this problem, it was not created by Mexico; it was brought here.

Foreign Minister on Resumption of Guatemalan Peace Talks

PA1007155293 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0257 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jul (NOTIMEX)—Foreign Minister Fernando Solana Morales on 9 July conveyed to Arturo Fajardo Maldonado, his Guatemalan counterpart, that he was pleased by next week's resumption of the peace negotiations between the Guatemalan Government and Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] rebels.

Solana Morales told the Guatemalan foreign minister, who is visiting Mexico, he was pleased regarding the course of the talks.

A few days ago, Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio announced a dialogue proposal that seeks to end the internal conflict that has raged for over 30 years and claimed 150,000 lives in that Central American country.

The Mexican official said the fact that the negotiations—suspended since May—will resume in Guatemalan territory "is worthy of special recognition," as that would allow a broader participation of the country's political sectors.

Solana Morales said Mexico is convinced of the major role international organizations can play in solving internal conflicts, when their presence is requested and this takes place within strict adherence to the principle of nonintervention.

During the meeting, Fajardo Maldonado explained the plan proposed by De Leon Carpio, which calls for UN and OAS mediation and for the creation of a permanent forum in Guatemala to which the URNG will be invited.

The two diplomats voiced their satisfaction over the prompt and effective restoration of constitutional order to Guatemala following the self-inflicted coup of 25 May, which led to the ouster of then president Jorge Serrano Elias. They also talked about the state of bilateral relations, cooperation, existing programs, and outlook for the future.

Government Rejects U.S. Proposal on Chinese Immigrants

PA1407132993 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Deputy Foreign Relations Secretary Andres Rosenthal said Mexico cannot lend itself to the application of a new U.S. immigration policy against Chinese immigrants.

During an interview, Rosenthal reiterated Mexico's position regarding the Chinese immigrants and said Mexico will act according to international law. It, therefore, rejects the U.S. proposal to provide asylum to those Chinese citizens currently in international waters.

Rosenthal said Mexico is not negotiating with the United States on this because the 659 immigrants planned to enter the United States, and so it is a U.S. problem.

The U.S. Coast Guard prevented the 659 Chinese immigrants from entering the country. The U.S. Government is feeding the Chinese.

El Salvador

Cristiani Welcomes Mexican President Salinas

PA1407035693 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari was welcomed to El Salvador with full honors on the afternoon of 13 July. Salinas de Gortari and Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani will sign several trade agreements during the two-day visit.

President Salinas' arrival is historic because it has been 25 years since a Mexican president has paid an official visit to El Salvador. The president was received with full honors at the Government House by President Alfredo Cristiani and most of his cabinet.

In his welcoming speech, President Cristiani acknowledged the role that President Salinas has played and the great assistance provided to El Salvador throughout the development of the peace process.

[Begin Cristiani recording] Allow me to welcome a friend, a friend of the Salvadoran people, who with all his responsibilities has given his time to support the peace process that the Salvadorans are now enjoying thanks to the support and cooperation of the president of Mexico and other presidents who are friends of the peace process. [end recording]

The Mexican president said there are common points in the histories of both nations.

[Begin Salinas recording] We now want to transform our support and friendship toward this courageous nation into more intense, broad, and productive bilateral relations. Today we view with hope a new phase of exchange between our peoples and greater joint participation in the region's progress and the strengthening of Latin American unity. [end recording]

During his short stay in the country, Presidents Salinas and Cristiani will sign several cooperation agreements to strengthen their countries' trade relations.

Electoral Tribunal President Asks For Solution to Strike

PA1407045293 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 13 Jul 93 p 5

[Text] After an unscheduled meeting with employees who have been on strike for the past eight days, Supreme Electoral Tribunal [TSE] President Dr. Luis Arturo Zaldivar on 12 July proposed a solution to end immediately the TSE labor dispute,

According to Zaldivar, the problem appears to be headed toward a solution since the five TSE magistrates have agreed to negotiate and find a solution to the employees' proposals. The employees went on strike to demand an increase of 600 colones, job stability, and immediate payment of per diem expenses. The strike has paralyzed the TSE registration and issuance of identification cards, which is part of the preparations for the 1994 elections. TSE President Zaldivar said he has already sent the workers the TSE's proposals to resolve the crisis, which has paralyzed the institution's preparations for the March elections.

The major points of the proposals include the creation of a tripartite commission made up of the TSE, Finance Ministry, and Legislative Assembly to study the possibility of granting a wage increase for the remainder of this year.

He also sent a note to the employees containing a proposal the TSE made to the United Nations Development Plan [UNDP] to obtain the funds necessary to resolve the labor dispute. The TSE has asked the UNDP to finance the furniture purchases. For the members of the TSE Employees Association, the proposal does not meet the requirements to end the strike because it does not clearly outline the amount of the increase. The employees also accused several magistrates, Zaldivar excluded, of not wanting to find an immediate solution. Whenever the employees have requested a meeting to negotiate, the magistrates have found reasons not to attend.

Dr. Zaldivar said a meeting would be held with Planning Minister Mirna Lievano de Marquez to request that the funds earmarked to issue identification cards on a large scale included in an AID grant be used to cover the employees' wage increase.

Guatemala

President on Ibero-American Summit, Peace Process

PA1407035393 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpt] President Ramiro De Leon Carpio on 13 July traveled to Salvador, Bahia State, Brazil, to participate in the Ibero-American Presidential Summit. Prior to his departure, the president spoke with reporters at La Aurora International Airport. Among the issues discussed were the government's actions to promote the peace process. De Leon Carpio said actions will be taken simultaneously in Mexico and in Guatemala. He said the government will hold direct talks with the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity in Mexico and that a permanent forum will be opened in Guatemala to seek consensus on a variety of topics.

The government has asked Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno to mediate the meetings in our country. The president said he is still awaiting Msgr. Quezada's response.

[Begin recording] [De Leon] Concerning international mediation, namely the 12....[pauses] We have discussed the permanent peace forum here in Guatemala with

Msgr. Quezada Toruno. Concerning international mediation, I will have the opportunity to meet personally with both the UN and OAS secretaries general during the Brazilian summit. The Guatemalan Government has already informed the people of those actions. Later we will make it official by presenting a formal request to the international organizations and Msgr. Quezada Toruno to mediate internal conflicts and seek peace.

[Unidentified reporter] [words indistinct] previous agreements of El Escorial?

[De Leon] Naturally, this is not really a new process. This is what we have reaffirmed in the past. It is a qualitative improvement in the peace process that was under way. It is a step forward between the alternatives of continuing with the same process or implementing a modified process. I would describe this as a qualitatively different process. Of course that means that some positive agreements obtained in the past should be maintained and used in this new period.

[Second unidentified reporter] After holding meetings with various sectors [words indistinct]?

[De Leon] No, no change will be made. We have enriched the process as we have received contributions from other sectors concerning procedures and doubts. I honestly believe that this process has been very positive. I think it will continue to be our government policy. We will continue to listen to different sectors so we can achieve a consensus. We are implementing the aforesaid policies so we can reach significant national political agreements. But the state decisions should be made by the president and vice president of the Republic; namely, the Guatemalan Government.

[Third unidentified reporter] You will hold a series of meetings with other presidents in Brazil. What will you propose to each of them?

[De Leon] Well, in addition to making a speech and participating in the Ibero-American Summit general assembly meeting, I will meet privately with other presidents. I will discuss three issues with them: first, the solidarity, support, and assistance from Ibero-American countries, which they have in fact demonstrated, for the ratification of the democratic process in Guatemala and the consolidation of democracy.

I will also discuss their support for peace in Guatemala; not just peace meaning the absence of war, but the economic and social peace made possible by our government programs and the struggle against poverty. We must keep in mind that poverty undermines democracy. We will therefore ask for cooperation from the countries participating in the summit.

I think that during the previous summit a consensus was reached on several actions to be taken by Ibero-American countries. Today I believe those ideas should be followed by deeds. Ibero-America has been the continent of hope, and today it must become the continent of reality. That is the message I will convey at the summit

I will also ask for support for the peace process and my initiative. In fact, this proposal has been welcomed by the entire international community. [passage omitted] [end recording]

National Police Make Two New Arrests in Carpio Murder

PA1307235293 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 13 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] Searches continued on 12 July in midwestern Guatemala as part of the National Police investigation into the murder of Jorge Carpio Nicolle and his companions. A man and woman were arrested during a search of a residence in Tecpan, Chimaltenango. Police also seized 9-mm and .45-caliber automatic weapons, including Uzi submachine guns and ammunition. The authorities said they had a court order to search the residence where the suspects were arrested. The two have already been turned over to the courts.

These two arrests bring to 14 the number of suspects arrested by the National Police. The investigation continues.

Honduras

Leftist Parties Meet, Advocate 'Armed Struggle'

PA1307135093 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 10 Jul 93 p 7

[Text] San Pedro Sula—Speaking at a roundtable discussion organized by EL HERALDO, Armando Alvarenga, leader of Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Honduras (PCMLH), pointed out: Our way of struggling is an armed struggle and we will not give it up. The PCMLH is seeking legal registration under the name of Party for a Change in Honduras [Partido para la Transformacion de Honduras—PTH].

"We believe that the future holds an armed struggle for Honduras. This will be a natural product of the social process, as it happened in the times of Morazan and Lempira," he added.

Alvarenga emphasized that when the party speaks of war, it is doing it from a superior point of view and in an organized manner. "We hate terrorism in all of its forms. Armed action must be well prepared and at the right time."

He added that "to speak of an armed struggle is not romanticism; it is something that has occured for as long as man has reasoned. It is a natural instict. We are currently engaged in a legal struggle to get an opportunity. The electoral struggle is only one phase that will allow us to convey our message to the people."

Although he reiterated they will not give up the armed struggle, Alvarenga admitted that the current conditions are not right, and therefore, "it will have to be in the future."

He admitted that the PCMLH has not carried out armed actions, "although this corresponds to another wing of the organization and not to me. I am in charge of politics."

The PCMLH was founded on 15 January 1967 and later underwent a schism from which other leftist organizations were born.

Alvarenga pointed out that the leadership of the party rotates. "Under that structure, the party exists and is nourished from the Marxist-Leninist doctrine and the experience it gains from the people. We pick up the flag from our martyrs as well as from Morazan and Lempira."

As a party, we advocate independence, mutual respect, and nonintervention. Within Marxism, we have opted for various forms of struggle; this time it is political struggle. Our goal is to reach power by all means, and we have a program for seeking answers to the problems that result from the class struggle, he added.

"We are a party that will never refuse any method of struggle."

With regard to that point, Gustavo Garcia Espana, leader of the Morazan Liberation Party [Parido Morazanista de Liberacion—PML] admitted: "We thought, whether we were right or wrong, that this was the time to wage war. But as we observe the new world situation and the attitude of the Honduran people, we think the people are rejecting this type of attitude and we see that now is the time to lay down weapons."

Nonetheless, he proudly said: "We were not defeated in the military field but in the ideology field."

Garcia Espana, a founder of the Communist Party, on 16 September 1979 participated in the creation of the Morazan Liberation Front [Frente Morazanista de Liberacion—FML], that—after having carried out several armed actions, today seeks becoming a political party under the name of Morazan Liberation Party [Partido Morazanista de Liberacion].

He insisted that the fall of the former USSR did not affect them in the military field, inasmuch as "we did not receive any help from there; we get money and weapons over here."

Although he said they maintain relations with Lybia, Cuba, and the Guatemalan guerrillas, "if some continue up in arms, we respect them, and they must also respect us."

Among the operations carried out by the FML, he mentioned the takeover of Radio America by the Jose Maria Reyes Mata Command. This operation was carried out 100 percent; there was no violence and they were able to read a message they carried, he added.

"Our members had orders not to engage in any violence, only to defend their lives. On this occasion, they had orders to respect journalist Rodrigo Wong Arevalo, who was the station director."

Garcia Espana said that the FML had a strong group of fighters, and he pointed out that "not so long ago there was a Morazan Patriotic Front, and therefore there has been some confusion on the names, but we have nothing to do with them."

He said that the leftists had greater activities during the times of repression waged by the late General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez.

The FML was the first political-military organization of the country, and the first to sustain a change and become a political party. We have met all the requirements by the National Electoral tribunal, he pointed out.

Garcia Espana concluded: "We are a moderate center left. We have no revolutionary project, but within the system of free enterprise, we oppose to neoliberalism. We are not a party in formation, as some say. We have already been formed, we have a central leadership and councils established in four or five departments."

Nicaragua

Chamorro Submits Amnesty Bill to Congress

PA1307215893 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Jul 93 pp 1, 12

[Report by Alicia Talavera]

[Text] The Executive Branch announced on 12 July its decision to submit to the National Assembly a bill granting amnesty to groups that have remained armed since 18 May. The amnesty will apply as long as said groups enter established security zones no later than 31 July and begin demobilization before 31 August.

President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, announcing this in an address to the nation, emphasized that the bill "does not apply to people guilty of war crimes or of crimes against mankind."

President Chamorro also revealed she has ordered the government minister, the director of the National Police, and the commander of the Army to "use all means available to guarantee the citizens' security throughout the national territory," particularly in the departments of Matagalpa, Jinotega, Eteli, Madriz, Nueva Segovia, Boaco, Chontales, and Zelaya, all areas affected daily by the actions of armed groups.

According to Chamorro, no one in these departments, except within security zones, will be allowed to carry weapons after 31 July.

By the same token, after 31 August "no one will be authorized to bear arms anywhere in the national territory."

National Assembly President Gustavo Tablada, speaking on the evening of 12 July, said that he still has not read the bill submitted by President Chamorro.

According to congressional regulations, Frank Duarte, secretary of the Board of Directors, will inform the Legislative Branch once the president's note is received.

If the president's request is deemed urgent, it will be listed first on the Congress' 17 August agenda. The Congress will reconvene on that date after a recess ending 15 August.

President Chamorro recalled that on 18 May she implemented a police program, called Guarantees for Life and Work, designed to guarantee the security of Nicaraguans victimized by violence in various parts of the country. This violence is perpetrated by criminal bands and rearmed groups.

That plan included the temporary suspension of some constitutional rights in 14 Nicaraguan municipalities. According to Chamorro, those measures were welcomed by farmers in the affected departments.

The government planned to accompany those measures with an amnesty. But important national sectors protested this plan, "assuming that it was an unconditional national amnesty."

As a result, on 16 June the Executive Branch invited these sectors to do their level best to disarm the irregular groups and incorporate them into the country's normal life. Despite that invitation, "no rearmed group has demobilized. Neither have we received any recommendations," Chamorro complained.

On the contrary, she added, some people who have met with those groups (referring to Vice President Virgilio Godoy) have described their demands as political and just.

Chamorro said that crime has increased since 16 June; this has drawn protests from various sectors. This might cause the UN and EC to withdraw programs in those regions.

Chamorro noted that during the second half of May, the police and the Army neutralized 19 bands of thieves and arrested 92 criminals. The Special Disarmament Brigade (BED) reported that 675 rearmed rebels entered the security zones and expressed their desire to lay down their weapons in exchange for financial support and legal protection.

Cabinet, Center Group Support Lacayo Candidacy

PA1307191493 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 11 Jul 93 pp 1, 10

[Report by Roberto Larios]

[Text] Eleven members of the Chamorro cabinet, which is headed by Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, and the nine deputies from the "National Opposition Union [UNO] Center Group" agreed on 10 July, after a lengthy and secret five hour meeting at Las Mercedes Hotel, to form an alliance with electoral aspirations for 1996, a political source who participated in the meeting revealed to BARRICADA.

The ministers and deputies formed a committee to devise a political plan "whereby they would remain in power after 1996." Participating in the committee for the government are Social Action Minister William Baez, Tourism Minister Fernando Guzman, and Deputy Government Minister Joaquin Lovo.

They also agreed on a series of legal and government initiatives for propaganda purposes to gain supporters for what they describe as the "National Plan." The ministers will travel "to the country's four cardinal points," inaugurating social and development projects "on behalf of the Center Movement," the source said.

Another agreement supports the Amnesty Law that was recently proposed "despite the displeasure this would cause among certain sectors."

Amnesty will be partial, it will not benefit armed criminal gangs, and the rearmed contras will have a deadline of 10 days to enter their security areas, which will be controlled by the Army and National Police with national and international verification.

During the meeting there was "a prediction" of possible candidates and electoral alliances for 1996, such as Arnoldo Aleman, Virgilio Godoy, and the Sandinist National Liberation Front. They all agreed that Antonio Lacayo would be "the man" in the forthcoming elections, for which they will also seek the support of other UNO parties, such as the National Conservative Party (PNC).

Last week a political source told BARRICADA that a group of ministers "had proposed to Engineer Antonio Lacayo that he promote a political movement with a view to the 1996 elections."

Some of the ministers have expressed dissatisfaction with the current situation at the National Assembly, and they seriously doubt that a political group of scarcely nine deputies can remain in power and become stronger.

The cabinet agreed that the Assembly is not under the Executive Branch but runs itself, as stated by law. If the UNO insists on bringing up this subject, the government will flatly reject it, our source said.

The ministers also agreed to "improve relations with the Catholic hierarchy" because they are convinced that the Episcopal Conference's pastoral communiques and letters "influence at least 65 percent of the population."

An effort will be made to ensure "stable and systematic" relations with the U.S. Embassy in Nicaragua and political contact will be established with the diplomatic corps.

As of this date, two Center Group deputies will accompany President Chamorro on tours abroad and at home.

The meeting began at 1000 in a room at the hotel, the identity of which the news media could not exactly ascertain because of strict security measures imposed by the government.

On three occasions Antonio Lacayo said he would not make statements to the news media. Not even the presidency team had access to him. Afterwards he offered to send Ernesto Robleto, director of the Presidency Information and Press Office, whom the reporters refused to see.

The reporters finally agreed to listen to Robleto, who said only that the deputies and ministers are "reviewing work plans." He did not reveal the specific points on the agenda.

Sandinists Call For 'Resuming' Struggle

PA1307181693 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 12 Jul 93 pp 1, 14

["Text" of a "declaration" signed by a group of 29 militants of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, issued in Managua in July]

[Text] Declaration:

The signatories, militants of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, after contemplating the country's current political situation and on occasion of the 14th anniversary of the triumph of the People's Sandinist Revolution, have agreed to publish the following declaration:

Whereas:

1. The FSLN is at the service of the people. The history of Sandinism is the history of the struggle waged by the humble Nicaraguan people. The greatness of our party has been and continues to be standing at their side and not at the side of the power structures that oppress them. We cannot accept a dual position in that regard; we want an FSLN representing and defending the poor and humble people. Of course, this principled position does not deny the need to reach a national agreement with other economic and political forces.

2. We recognize the political efforts made by the FSLN since its electoral defeat to contribute to maintain peace, stability, and reconciliation among Nicaraguans. We are fully aware of the fact that during the past three years we have had to pay a high political price by supporting the current government in fulfilling the mandate of attaining peace and social wellbeing for the people.

3. After three years of neoliberal policy, the economic and social results could not be more obvious: poverty and social disintegration, unemployment, lack of access to education and health, crime, prostitution, total abandonment of Nicaraguan children, and absolute neglect of the Atlantic Coast.

Administrative corruption, the surrender of our national sovereignty, noncompliance with political agreements, and not keeping promises made to the people are becoming government policy.

4. The revolution's socioeconomic achievements, particularly those that benefited thousands of Nicaraguan peasant families and workers, are in the process of being eliminated. Government policies ignore peasants who farm individually or through cooperatives. They are being left without agricultural policies, land titles, or access to credit and markets. Under those circumstances, they have had to sell their rights and properties at ridiculous prices. Enterprises in the hands of workers without solid titles, indebted, with high production costs, and without viable credits are suffering the same fate, forced by inexorable market laws that, as a result of the government's political decisions, are used as the only guidelines.

5. While the FSLN is weakening before the government, the right-wing and the Somozists—the main dangers the country faces—are reaping the rewards of popular discontent, demagogically manipulating the people's misery.

In addition to the reemergence of Somozism, our main adversary, vengeful armed groups have become a growing military threat, posing the danger of returning to destabilization and civil war. This danger must be faced and averted now to consolidate the possibilities for national stability.

6. As Nicaraguans and Sandinists, we cannot reject the path of dialogue and negotiation to seek solutions for the problems afflicting the nation. We must say, however, that the government's persistent noncompliance with the expectations and its commitments have led to the dismissal, for the time being, of the idea that dialogue is the only possible solution.

In view of the situation, we declare:

a) The FSLN must lead the popular struggle, clearly moving away from the government and organizing the workers' and social struggle to demand, right now, what we have been denied for more than three years as a result of the current economic and social policies.

b) We are fully aware of the fact that a wide sector of the Sandinist grass roots is making great efforts to promote,

from the lower levels, the struggle in defense of their interests. The FSLN political leadership should firmly support that struggle.

c) We urge our brothers to strengthen Sandinist unity, reaffirm together our commitment to the people's struggle, and demand guidance from FSLN leaders compatible with that commitment.

d) All forms of struggle must be set in motion within the framework of legality and respect for the Constitution. On the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the triumph of the Sandinist People's Revolution we expect the FSLN to stand firm, without ambiguities, at the people's side. This 19 July anniversary should be the starting point for resuming all forms of struggle: labor, social, professional, community, parliamentarian—all of us together, until we achieve with facts and not promises new victories for the people.

[Issued] Managua, July 1993

[Signed] Rene Vivas, Monica Baltodano, Lucio Jimenez, Danilo Aguirre, Victor Hugo Tinoco, Mirna Cunningham, Lumberto Campbell, Doris Tijerino, Luis Felipe Perez, Fanor Herrera, David Blanco, Dionisio Marenco, Jose Gonzalez, Natan Sevilla, Isaias Parrales, Orlando Nunez, Ulises Gonzalez, Benedico Meneses, Juan Jose Ubeda, Jose Pasos Marciacq, Julio Marenco, Jacinto Suarez, Benigna Mendiola, Henry Petri, Carlos Fonseca Teran, Julio Lopez Campos, Ricardo Pereira, Lili Soto, Gustavo Porras.

Recompa Organization Announces Military Actions

PA1307130693 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 11 Jul 93 pp 1, 8

[Report by Moises Castillo Zees]

[Text] Matagalpa—After analyzing the nation's socioeconomic crisis, the Nicaraguan Patriotic Front [Frente Patriotico Nicaraguense—FPN], the top armed organization that includes all the recompa groups in the country, has called on its armed members to wage a virtual civil war.

In a lengthy communique, the self-styled Carlos Fonseca, Juan Bautista Midence, and Camilo Ortega Saavedra armed groups, among others, said they "do not see a positive future for Nicaraguans because it will be one in which the strongest will survive. We have the commitment to defend life, housing, property, health, education, etc."

The armed fronts have decided that on 12 July they will begin military actions in the north "because of the hunger and unemployment on the 14th anniversary" of the victory of the Sandinist people's revolution.

According to the FPN communique, the roads from Matagalpa to La Dalia, Waslala, Rancho Grande, Siuna, Jinotega, Pantasma, Wiwili, Cua, Pita del Carmen, and others will be blocked.

The communique warned: "We do not want to commit acts of injustice against buses and private vehicles but they should refrain from traveling until we make a new announcement, otherwise we will proceed definitely to immobilize them."

They also stated they will respect the armed groups that want to benefit from the total amnesty offered by the government, but they will fight the armed organizations that are killing the people.

The rearmed groups seek to pressure the government, beginning 12 July. They also expressed their support for the Subtiava Indian community in Leon, which has taken over land that it legitimately owns but which was seized by the San Antonio sugar mill.

They also decided to place corrupt judges, magistrates, and Labor Ministry officials under surveillance and to "make known all human rights violations."

Another section of the communique distributed to the media indicated they will fight Somozist and destabilizing landowners. They will also protect patriotic farmers and cooperative members.

The communique, issued on the night of 9 July, indicated that the FPN asks the National Assembly to lift the immunity of ministers, directors of state enterprises, mayors, and deputies who are corrupt and violate the laws.

Panama

Endara Discusses Future Canal Administration

PA1307193093 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Jul 93 p 1A

[Report by Vilma E. Figueroa]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara noted how important it is for the country that the people be consulted on the constitutional reforms pertaining to the administration of the canal when it changes over to Panamanian hands at the end of 1999.

The Presidential Commission for Panama Canal Affairs, chaired by Joaquin Vallarino, recommended that the topic be given constitutional status. This implies drafting constitutional changes that will have to be submitted for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

Endara and his cabinet met on 12 July. Although details of the meeting were not revealed, the president said the proposal, which requires a lot of study and consultations, is being analyzed.

"I ask the media to show an interest in the reforms. It is very important that the people be consulted on the topic," Endara stated.

The president said that, just as an organization was created for the reverted areas, an entity is being created to administer the canal because it is a very complex task that requires a lot of engineering expertise.

In Endara's opinion, the canal should be administered by an entity that will manage it efficiently because Panamanians must be able to show the world that we can not only continue to administer the canal but can improve its administration.

Regarding the possibility of calling extraordinary Legislative Assembly sessions to discuss this topic, Endara said that although he does not rule out such a possibility, he realizes the legislators have "plenty of work."

Foreign Minister Julio Linares said they seek to include in the Constitution certain aspects dealing with the Panama Canal so that the topic will not be politicized.

The Legislative Assembly will discuss the constitutional reforms during its next period of sessions beginning on 1 September.

Last February the Endara administration created the Interoceanic Region Authority (ARI), which will be in charge of administering the reverted areas and property, estimated at some $32 billion.

Regarding the unconstitutionality suit filed by Comptroller General Ruben Dario Carles against two articles of the Electoral Code, Endara said that from the outset they noticed that it was quite likely that such articles would be termed unconstitutional, and it is now up to the Supreme Court to decide.

Asked about the possibility of asking ministers vying for political office in the 1994 elections to resign, he replied: "Yes and no."

He said he told the ministers during a recent cabinet meeting that since the electoral code reforms had been approved, he would reshuffle his cabinet the second part of October.

On the political situation of the ruling parties, he reiterated that party unity has been maintained. He said it has not been decided yet who will head the presidential ticket.

Endara underlined the importance of holding general elections—the first elections held democratically following military rule—with a modified electoral code to prevent the electoral fraud that existed in the past.

The electoral reforms were approved unanimously during the Legislative Assembly's last regular period of sessions.

The last elections, won by Endara by a margin of three to one, were annulled by the then Supreme Electoral Tribunal on Noriega's orders. This increased the tension with the United States that led to the 20 December 1989 invasion.

Insurance Companies Not Liable for Looting

PA1207163093 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 12 Jul 93 p 2

[Report by Aneldo Arosemena]

[Text] Two recent rulings by Panama's Maritime Tribunal have established that insurance companies are not liable for any type of damages resulting from the looting that took place in Panama following the 20 December 1989 U.S. military intervention.

The rulings by the Panamanian justice corporation coincide with a similar decision by a Delaware district judge in the United States, who exonerated from legal responsibility an insurance company with interests in Panama. This insurance company had been sued by TRT/FTC Communication Inc. for losses suffered during the 20 December 1989 armed conflict. A bloody clash with the U.S. Army overthrew Panamanian strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega.

According to extensive Panamanian Maritime Tribunal rulings of approximately 200 pages each, a legal basis exists to state that hostilities between two armies took place, independent of whether or not war had been declared. In legal circles it is said that the decision by U.S. Judge William Hoeveler to declare General Manuel Antonio Noriega a "prisoner of war" reinforces the thesis that four years ago a war took place in Panama.

The Maritime Tribunal rulings benefit the Panamena de Seguros and National Union Fire Co. insurance firms, which had been sued by the companies Industria y Empresa, S.A. and Multi-Respuestos.

Outbreaks of looting by civilians occurred following the 20 December 1989 invasion, resulting in losses worth millions [currency not specified] to businesses, which immediately took legal action to request compensation.

The Martime Tribunal rulings of 18 and 27 May 1993 clearly establish that the general looting resulted from confrontations between two hostile armies.

A document connected with the ruling to which this journalist had access indicates that the obligation of the insurance companies to compensate for damages is excluded from the policies and their endorsements because these losses were the result of war action.

Argentina

Official Sees No Trade Progress From G-7 Summit

PY1407032593 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 13 Jul 93 p 15

[Article by International Economic Relations Secretary Hector Gambarotta]

[Text] The world has lacked a consistent system for establishing clear rules of the game for developing international commerce for a long time. This was the reason for the great interest in the meeting of world leaders in Tokyo: An opportunity finally seemed to have appeared for rescuing the world economy from its tangle of inconsistencies.

This great expectation made the G-7 meeting work in an atmosphere of expected definitions. Perhaps under this pressure, and in order to avoid frustrating so much expectation in form and substance, the leaders decided to rapidly issue a concise four-page "report" (Report on the Uruguay Round) [words within parenthesis in English] signed by Canada, the EEC, the United States, and Japan in an effort to at least calm down the spirits.

Consequently, Tokyo ended up being the stage for noisy announcements on access to markets. The great echo of those statements seems to be related to the resounding power of its scarce contents, rather than to its actual thrust to world trade expansion.

Considered from the viewpoint of their global nature, the guidelines established in the "report" are very weak and, in many cases, worrisome. They do not convey the will to eliminate customs barriers. The guidelines should have been related to concrete facts in order to clear up all doubts.

The attention of the Tokyo summit did not focus on detailed guidelines for orienting farm product trade, specific definitions for opening markets to industrial products, and clear proposals to order the exchange of services.

The results are to be taken with a cautious, rather than optimistic view. Only an agenda for restarting GATT negotiations has been designed. Some may believe this is a significant achievement, but for us it is insufficient.

For Argentina, the most serious thing is that no progress has been made in liberalizing international farm product trade. For us, it is serious that the "report" failed to mention the Blair House Agreement, not even as background, and that it did not vow to respect the existing plant health agreements.

In conclusion, the four lines of general statements the "report" devoted to the farm issue show that industrialized countries cannot reach significant agreements on the subject. In the face of this situation, our commitment is to strengthen the Cairns Group so that the final document of the agreement to be signed in Geneva may faithfully reflect our interest in opening farm product markets.

We must redouble our efforts so that Geneva may shape up the firm position that President Carlos Menem voiced on behalf of 37 countries, reaffirming the pressing need to have a multilateral system of commerce that can definitively open the markets.

The multilateral approach is a mandatory target for Argentina. Our national interest demands our active presence at all international forums in order to gather the necessary critical mass for establishing this multilateral approach as the axis of the future world commercial system.

UK, Argentina Agree To Reduce South Atlantic Restrictions

PY1307162193 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2136 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jul (EFE)—It was disclosed today that the Argentine and British Governments have agreed to reduce from 80 to 55 nautical miles the area around the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands in which they must inform each other of any maneuver involving more than four ships or aircraft.

The measure was announced in a joint declaration supplementary to that signed on 25 September 1991, based on the proposals for a direct communications system and measures designed to increase confidence in the South Atlantic, which was presented in Buenos Aires and London by an Argentine-British team following a meeting held last May.

The amendments contained in the transitional reciprocal information and consultation system were adopted "in view of the increasing mutual confidence" between the two countries. These amendments aim toward "attaining a more normal situation in the southwest Atlantic."

The text of the declaration states that any reference to maneuvers involving more than 1,000 men, which were governed previously by a policy of mutual information exchange when the maneuvers were carried out less than 80 nautical miles from the coasts of the southern archipelagoes, has been eliminated.

Argentina and Great Britain resumed diplomatic and commercial relations in 1991, nine years after the 74-day war over the sovereignty of the Malvinas Islands, which ended in Argentina's surrender.

No 'Irregularities' Detected at Foreign Ministry

PY1307221393 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1954 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 12 Jul (NA)—An investigation by the Argentine Foreign Ministry into the alleged illegal

importation of automobiles by former Bolivian Ambassador Agustin Saavedra Weise has concluded that "nothing abnormal was found" in answer to charges by Bolivian Foreign Minister Ronald MacLean.

Spokesmen of the Foreign Ministry told NA today that following MacLean's accusations, the National Protocol Directorate conducted an investigation, which "did not detect any irregularities."

The spokesmen stated that MacLean's comments were "quite peculiar" because the investigation reached the conclusion that "the importation of automobiles by the Bolivian Embassy when Saavedra Weise was ambassador was normal."

The spokesmen added: "If MacLean's charges were true, officials would have taken the necessary measures at that time." [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Paz Zamora Explains Newscast Reorganization

PY1307133593 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Report by Mario Espinoza Osorio from Government House]

[Text] Good afternoon to all of our listeners. His Excellency, President Jaime Paz Zamora, is here with us.

[Begin recording] [Paz Zamora] Thank you, Mario. When I took over as president of the Republic, I decided to tackle two points concerning government-owned media that really concerned me. My first concern was to improve and streamline our public television service so we Bolivians would have the right, the privilege, to be linked together through our public television, and even to broadcast to our neighboring countries and Bolivians residing abroad. We worked incessantly toward this goal, collecting financial resources that would enable us to modernize government-owned television. La Paz Television Nacional Network, a public television network, currently has 42 relay stations throughout the country; its programs are even beamed to other countries. Moreover, transmission capabilities and image quality have been improved, as you may have already noticed.

My second concern was that public television, which belongs to all Bolivians, should be open to all. I did not want a television channel to cater to the president of the Republic or be the lackey of the ruling party, but rather a channel at the service of Bolivia and indeed of all Bolivians. We thus decided to introduce pluralism, openness, in our television; and this is what we are doing today. It seems that we have the support of all Bolivians, who are looking forward to it. By virtue of being the successful bidder, PAT [Associated Journalists Television, Periodistas Asociados Television] now will handle La Paz Television Nacional newscasts. I would like to tell you that I am personally satisfied that PAT won this public bid because we need credibility. The fact that a company, or the people who assume this responsibility, has won the bid justly, according to established legal procedures, but enjoying legitimacy stems from Bolivians' credibility and the trust placed in them.

I am certain that this first experience, which has never been done before in Bolivia, is further proof of our will to act honestly, cleanly, and to ensure that what belongs to the state, what belongs to every Bolivian, and what he pays in taxes will be to his advantage through a modern, appropriate, reliable, and credible service. I leave office on 6 August with a clear conscience that this has been a momentous step forward in the history of government-owned media. As of 6 August I will be just another citizen who will benefit from a clean, modern, and guaranteed service that today begins at the level of television newscasts with PAT on our screens.

[Espinoza] Thank you, Mr. President. We believe that you have perfectly and clearly explained the interest, intent, and idea that moved the national government, over which you preside, to take such a decision, which follows the same lines as our own: To contribute to the democratization of the mass media, starting with the government-owned media, and to work independent of any political party—whether criticizing the government if events so warrant or praising it when praise is deserved—denouncing irregularities. In sum, to contribute to the common good as we have been doing for nearly three years since PAT was established. And yet, Mr. President, without your government's initiative, indeed your own initiative, we would not have achieved this public television that transmits via satellite and microwave to all corners of the country. It is a democratic gesture that shows your true vocation. [end recording]

Brazil

President Views Economy, Police Chief Appointment

PY1307221193 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] President Itamar Franco has said that he is not happy about the current inflation rate, but made it clear that he is fully confident in Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso's plan. He also noted that no confirmed charge of income tax evasion has been leveled against Justice Minister Mauricio Correa. We now have more on President Itamar Franco's news conference.

Answering a question on the nomination of a military officer to head the federal police, the president said he believes the time has come to stop differentiating between civilians and military men.

President Itamar Franco said there will be no Fujimorization of his administration, that is, the democratic system will not become authoritarian as happened in Peru. He said:

[Begin Franco recording] I believe the time has come—and we PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] people advocate this—to stop differentiating between civilians and military men; providing the civilians are as good as the military men, and the military men are as good as the civilians.

There will be no risk of Fujimorization under my administration—not through the president of the Republic. We in Brazil, unfortunately—and also fortunately—are aware that a few people are thinking of Fujimorization, those who want authoritarian rule. They are anachronistic and mediocre people who obviously are not used to a democratic system and who forget that our country will enjoy full, guaranteed, social, and united development under a democratic system—but never under an authoritarian rule. [end recording]

Concerning [Justice] Minister Mauricio Correa, he said:

[Begin Franco recording] I still have not received the final report on the revenue problem involving Minister Mauricio Correa. As soon as I receive it, I will take the appropriate measures. The minister, therefore, continues to deserve my confidence.

Incidentally, I nominated the new Federal Police director with the justice minister's approval. Had I not sought his approval, I would have no need to fire him, he would tender his resignation. [end recording]

Concerning the economic policy, he said:

[Begin Franco recording] The economic policy is conducted by Finance and Economy Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso. The minister is not satisfied with the inflation rate. Not one single Brazilian is satisfied with the inflation rate—least of all me. The minister is doing his job, as I have already said: Ably, calmly, and with a special love for his country. And he, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, can stabilize our country's economy and curb inflation. He will maintain our country's growth rate in an orderly manner. He is already courageously waging—obviously with my support—this struggle, the struggle against fiscal deficit. [end recording]

Concerning the wage policy, he said:.

[Begin Franco recording] It is very difficult to consider this because we have already seen one example: The Chamber of Deputies approved a bill and the Senate amended it.

I was a congressman for 16 years and have learned, since my arrival in the Senate, to respect congressional decisions. I am entitled to review, promulgate, and totally or partially veto them.

The Executive Branch has its reviewing mechanisms. Thus, when I receive the final bill I will take the appropriate advise and do what I must do. [end recording]

Uruguay's Lacalle Defends Mercosur Integration Process

PY1307154093 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0038 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 12 Jul (EFE)—Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle defended today in Rio de Janeiro the integration process of the Common Market of the South (Mercosur) and the opening of the world market, in a speech before the Commercial Association of Rio de Janeiro.

Lacalle today paid an official visit to Rio de Janeiro before leaving for Salvador, Bahia State, to attend the third Ibero-American Summit of chiefs of state and government.

Lacalle indicated to the Rio de Janeiro business leaders that the agreement to establish a single customs tariff of 20 percent on imports from the Mercosur partners will benefit Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay because it will strengthen the consumer markets of each country.

Lacalle added that the Mercosur countries are interested in the opening of the world market if this is done in an equitable manner, in accordance with the degree of national development. He said: "The developed countries are increasing commercial protectionism, which hurts the economies of the developing countries."

Regarding regional integration, Lacalle said that one of his greatest problems is the variation in the exchange rate between the countries, and he defended the proposal to create a mechanism to keep control over the exchange rate variations which was made recently by Brazilian Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso.

Lacalle added he does not believe the inflation rate in Brazil, which will surpass 1,000 percent this year, will jeopardize Mercosur. He said: "Argentina has already gone through a similar problem and was able to solve it, and Brazil will also solve that problem."

During his visit to Rio de Janeiro Lacalle and Rio Governor Leonel Brizola visited a general educational center where children from poor families study all day and get lunch, snacks, and medical attention.

Security Forces Keep Watch on Cuban Exiles in Salvador

PY1307134193 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Jul 93 p 5

[Text] Salvador—The security scheme that has been established for the third Ibero-American Summit is controlling the steps of four Cuban exiles, three of them

former political prisoners of the Fidel Castro regime, who arrived in Salvador eight days ago. The exiles will report "appalling facts" that are occurring in Cuba, a country that, according to them, is the world's most serious human rights violator.

Roberto Martin Peres, who spent 21 years in prison, Luis Zuniga Rey, with 19 years in prison, Caridad Roque, with 17 years, and journalist Margarita Ruiz, who fled with her family to the United States when she was still a child, live in Miami and work for the Foundation for Human Rights in Cuba. They devote all of their time to condemning the Cuban regime and to promoting demonstrations during Fidel Castro's international trips, as is happening now that the Cuban leader is coming to Salvador for the summit.

The Cubans said they do not intend to make any noisy demonstration in Salvador, but only report—through an exhibition of pictures, statements, and documents—on what is happening in Cuba. The Cubans, who are permanently followed by security agents, moved from their hotel. Upon their arrival they stayed at Meridien, one of the hotels at which the chiefs of state will stay.

The Cubans want to show that their country has become a giant prison. According to Zuniga, for 14 million inhabitants there are 242 large prisons and 267,000 prisoners, 20 percent of whom are being held for political reasons, while thousands of people die every year while trying to flee to the United States by sea. He said that between 1991 and June 1993, almost 12,000 people died on the seas, while fewer than 6,000 have managed to escape.

* Goldemberg Urges Creation of Civilian Space Agency

93SM0329F Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Jun 93 p 3

[Commentary by former Minister of Education Jose Goldemberg, who is also a former rector of the University of Sao Paulo and a former Secretary of Science & Technology]

[Text] The President of the Republic recently sent the National Congress a bill that would create the Brazilian Space Agency, to be "civilian in nature." This proposal was sent at the same time as measures pertaining to the administration's economic program and, it seems, will receive speedy attention from the Congress. This would begin the revitalization of the Brazilian space program, which has suffered various kinds of limitations on its development, but still has achieved a reasonable degree of success.

At present, the space program is being carried out primarily by three organizations: The National Institute of Space Research (INPE), the Aerospace Technical Center (CTA)—both in Sao Jose dos Campos—and the Alcantara Launch Center, in Maranhao State.

The CTA, which belongs to the Ministry of Aeronautics, has concentrated its efforts in the rocket propulsion and the construction of a system capable of launching man-made satellites into space.

The test facility for these launches is the Alcantara Base, which will probably become Brazil's "cosmodrome," since it is magnificently well situated right on the equator. The significance of this location is that it is easier and more economical to launch satellites from this base than from any other base situated at higher latitudes, such as Cape Canaveral in the United States, Baikenour, in the Soviet Union, or even Kourus, in French Guiana.

INPE is subordinate to the Ministry of Science and Technology. It not only does space and meteorological research, but has also developed the capability—in collaboration with this country's industry—to build the satellites themselves.

The proposed space agency would coordinate these activities, replacing the Brazilian Commission for Space Activities (COBAE), now chaired by the Minister-Chief of the Armed Forces General Staff (EMFA).

The first feature of the new agency is that it will be a civilian agency, thus dispelling the false image that now prevails, i.e., that the Brazilian space program is of a military nature. Furthermore, it will be a semi-autonomous agency [*autarquia*] with responsibilities for execution (not just an advisory body, as COBAE is), and would have its own staff.

The second characteristic is its direct link to the Office of the President of the Republic, which gives it an hierarchical status that COBAE does not have.

These two features should give the agency more flexibility in concluding international agreements in the field of space activities. By their very nature, such activities require such cooperation, not only to accelerate local technical development, but to promote the efficient use of the Alcantara cosmodrome.

Another task that the agency could perform, with a good chance of success, is to negotiate Brazil's admittance into the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), an informal club whose members are countries that have mastered space technology. Membership in this club would facilitate access to space technology.

Experience in other fields has shown that the greater our national capability, the greater the extent of international cooperation that can be obtained. For example, we need to master the technology used to launch satellites into space, and the nations that are more fully developed in this area have set up obstacles to keep other nations from obtaining it, out of fear that it will be used for military purposes.

Indeed, space technology does have a "dual" nature, i.e., it can be used for both peaceful and military purposes, as is the case with nuclear technology. The only way to

remove these obstacles and gain access to the necessary technology is to establish our program's credibility as a peaceful, not military, effort.

Establishment of the space agency will certainly help in this regard, by creating the conditions for strengthening the Brazilian space program without losing our independence in this area.

There are obvious commercial reasons for us[illegible]se the Alcantara facility as the base for launching sa[illegible]s that orbit at low altitudes. Satellites of this type, for telecommunications use, will be extraordinarily important in the future. A major part of the necessary infrastructure has already been built at Alcantara, and we could soon enter the market with satellite launchers installed in cooperation with other countries, until we build our own. This possibility was seriously discussed on the occasion of the launch of INPE's "green" (data collection) satellite; INPE ended up hiring an American company to do the job.

The potential for international cooperation is great, and will increase with the establishment of a civilian space agency like NASA (the U.S. space agency).

Our space program has in fact been set back considerably because of problems in obtaining funding with the necessary regularity, and an inability to offer adequate salaries. The proposed space agency, as part of the Office of the President of the Republic, will be in a better position to remove the existing obstacles.

* Deputies Seek Further Debate on Nuclear Accords

93SM0329D Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 25 Jun 93 p 6

[Article by Brasilia correspondent Luiza Pastor, with boxed material contributed by Brasilia correspondent Maria Helena Tachinardi]

[Text] Deputies Marcelo Barbieri (PMDB-SP) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party—Sao Paulo] and Miro Teixeira (PDT-RJ) [Democratic Labor Party—Rio de Janeiro] yesterday sent a request to their party leaders that the "for extremely urgent consideration" label be removed from the three nuclear safeguard accords being considered in the National Congress. The congressmen also want to have the Chamber of Deputies Committee on National Defense hold a series of debates to clarify points in the agreements that they still consider "not very clear." The proposal will be discussed on Tuesday, at a meeting of the leadership.

The decision to forward the request was made by the congressmen after the round table held by the committee to debate the subject of the safeguards ended without a consensus on fundamental points in the agreements. The principal source of disagreement is the question of prior authorization for "special inspections" at facilities where the inspection agency suspects nuclear activity is taking place.

"The way the bills read, those inspections can be requested in such a way as to open up to outsiders' eyes the technology that is being used," warned Barbieri, who advocates a new, "intermediate," wording for those parts of the agreements. This alternative, he argues, will permit checking into possible deviations from the rules on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, while preserving the technology developed by Brazilian experts, who do not have access to foreign advanced technology in the field because Brazil has not signed the treaty on sensitive technologies.

The problem holding up the accords in the Chamber of Deputies is the same one that occurs every time the government concludes an international agreement on a strategic subject. Under the law, the legislators have the power to approve or reject the agreements, but not to amend them. So the only alternative to a text that Congress finds unsatisfactory is the drafting of a new agreement to be reassessed by the countries involved, renegotiated, and then resubmitted to the Congress.

So, if the legislators want to amend the agreements, that will mean starting the whole process over again, the process that finally led to the signature of the texts by the two countries, something the government finds to be a problem for its international negotiations.

One participant in yesterday's debate, Counselor Roberto Jaguaribe, head of Itamaraty's Department of Sensitive Technologies, warned that postponing approval of the agreements "would have negative repercussions for this country abroad," but preferred not to say what those repercussions might be. In fact, such repercussions may be provoked at some point in the future by an issue that is much more serious in the eyes of the world: all during yesterday's debate, several deputies were urging that the article of the Constitution that restricts the use of nuclear energy to "exclusively peaceful purposes," be deleted during the upcoming constitutional revision. The critics call the provision "absurd self-discrimination."

Of the three agreements on the agenda, one dates from last year and establishes a quadripartite committee to monitor the safeguards of the agreement signed in Vienna by former President Collor; another relates to the bilateral Brazil-Argentina agreement; the third includes a series of amendments to the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelolco that were approved at the General Conference of the Organization To Ban Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL).

[Box p 6]

Concern at Itamaraty

Itamaraty is worried that Brazil's partners, who possess sensitive technologies coveted by the government and

Brazilian companies, such as supercomputers and precision engineering equipment, will start wondering about a possible "retrocession" as regards nuclear policy for peaceful purposes in this country.

This, in short, is the concern of Brazilian diplomats, given the possibility of a significant delay in gaining approval of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and of the quadripartite agreement signed in December 1991 by Brazil, Argentina, the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC), and the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

In the case of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which prohibits nuclear weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean—amendments approved by the Brazilian government along with Argentina, Chile, Mexico, and other member countries in the last half of 1992—Brazil is behind schedule in comparison to Argentina, where the changes in the treaty were approved by the Senate and by all the committees in the Chamber of Deputies and now only await approval by the full Chamber.

Day before yesterday, however, the Argentine government failed in its attempt to put ratification of the treaty on the agenda. The Argentine Congress rejected the proposal by 70 votes to 59. Ratification will be discussed again there next Wednesday.

* Oil, Natural Gas Production Data Reported

93SM0329C Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 23 Jun 93 p 14

[Article by Rio correspondent Fatima Belchior]

[Text] The nation's production of petroleum stood at an average of 653,600 barrels a day during the first five months of this year, virtually unchanged in comparison with the 653,700 barrels a day in the same period of last year.

May petroleum output was 653,700 barrels a day, up 1.4 percent from April's 644,500 barrels. The increase came about because of the normalization of operations in the Albacora and Coral fields, both located in the Campos (Rio de Janeiro State) basin. Operations in these two fields are subject to frequent interruptions because of incorporation of new wells. In comparison with May 1992 (656,900 barrels a day), Brazil's production of petroleum declined by 0.48 percent.

Production of natural gas totaled 19.9 million cubic meters a day in May, compared with 19.6 million in April. This year's volume also exceeded that of May 1992, which stood at 18.5 million cubic meters a day.

According to Petrobras statistics, 16.7 million cubic meters per day out of total May output were consumed. Petrobras used 7.8 million cubic meters in its own system, and sold 8.9 million to others.

Of the 7.8 million that stayed in the Petrobras system, 3.9 million cubic meters a day were injected into the petroleum fields, thus improving their yields. Another 2 million cubic meters a day were consumed in the petroleum production process itself. Natural gas processing units consumed 945,000 cubic meters a day, while industrial units burned another 864,000 cubic meters a day.

* Privatization Program Expected To Accelerate

93SM0329B Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Jun 93 (Economic Section) p 4

[Article by Alberto Tamer]

[Text] The chairman of the Commission on the De-Statization Program, Andre Franco Montoro Filho, is convinced that Brazil must accelerate the privatization process and that it will be easier now that the Ministry of Finance has adopted a more centralizing approach. Privatization must be considered as a program to which the government is firmly committed, not just a project of the privatization commission or the BNDES [National Bank for Economic and Social Development]. He expects it will be possible to complete the privatization of companies in the iron and steel sector before the year is out, companies that have absorbed $12 billion in the past 10 years. Next year, privatizations would be arranged in the areas of electric power—Light and Escelsa [Espirito Santo State Electricity Company]]—besides parts of the Federal Railways and of Lloyd [shipping]. To do that, he insists, the continuity of the program must be maintained without faltering, the program must be improved without causing interruptions or delays, and the entire administration must be involved.

The weight of the state enterprises, which is portrayed by impressive figures on wasted investments, shows there is no alternative than to relieve the State of the burden of these companies and the costs they represent, said Montoro Filho [no quotation marks as published]. According to him, the state enterprises once had a very important strategic role, but that was played out in the 1980's. "To try in the 1990's to maintain an outdated structure is a serious mistake that Brazilian society cannot afford to make."

Throwing Money Around
Contributions of Treasury Funds (1982-92) Made To State Enterprises, in US$ millions

Acesita [Itabira Special Steel Company]	127
Acominas [Minas Gerais Iron & Steel Company]	4,058
Alcanorte	17

Celma	16
Alcalis	1
Cofavi [Vitoria Railway Company]	38
Cosipa [Sao Paulo Iron & Steel Company]	3,174
CSN [National Iron & Steel Company]	2,813
CST [Tubarao Iron & Steel Company]	2,111
Embrapa [Brazilian Agriculture & Livestock Research Enterprise	272
Escelsa	45
Light	12
Lloyd	11
Piratini	215
RFFSA [Federal Railway Network]	8,668
Usiba [Bahia Iron & Steel Mill]	90
Usimec	12
Usiminas [Minas Gerais Iron & Steel Company]	231
TOTAL	21.9billion

Source: National De-Statization Program

Chile

Paraguayan President-Elect Wasmosy Interviewed

PY1307145793 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 July 93

[Interview with Paraguayan President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy by station anchor Cecilia Cerrano in Santiago; Cerrano interviews Wasmosy, who appears on the screen speaking from an unspecified location, from the studio—live; from the "24 Horas" newscast]

[Text] [Cerrano] Paraguay's President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy arrived yesterday in Chile on a private visit. We are now going to establish direct contact with him to discuss several current issues. Good evening, Mr. President.

[Wasmosy] Good evening. I would like to thank you all for this honor to me, and through me to Paraguay, which feels great affection for the Chilean people.

[Cerrano] Mr. President, you are going to be the first civilian president in your country after 38 years of a military regime. Is your administration going to be, then, a totally civilian administration, or are you going to cogovern with the military?

[Wasmosy] This is a 100 percent civilian administration. I am the first civilian who has been elected in free and democratic elections in the entire political history of my country.

[Cerrano] Thank you, Mr. President. Now, what will be the future of General Stroessner? To be more precise, will he be able to return to his country, Paraguay, from Brazil, where he is currently residing?

[Wasmosy] Look here, the doors of my country are open not only to Paraguayans but also to all foreigners who wish to reside there, and those people who have pending issues with another branch of government—the judiciary—will have to settle things with that branch, which is independent from the Executive Branch.

[Cerrano] What pending issues does Gen. Stroessner have with Paraguay's judiciary?

[Wasmosy] Well, he faces charges of human rights violations, and several other actions have been brought against him and other members of his regime.

[Cerrano] There is proof in your country that attests to the existence of the so-called Condor Plan, a plan in which the police, or security forces, from several South American countries acted in collusion to protect their own members. What kinds of investigations have your party carried out? What is your administration going to investigate concerning this issue?

[Wasmosy] Well, we are going to fully respect human rights, and if there should be specific allegations of human rights violations we would then go to the courts.

[Cerrano] What concrete steps are you going to take to solve these cases that you mentioned, of pending charges filed for human rights violations that still occur in your country?

[Wasmosy] I sincerely hope that the judiciary—which will be in the hands of upright men, no longer appointed by the executive branch but rather by the magistrates' council—will have the courage of its convictions and will thus punish the guilty and discharge those they find not guilty.

[Cerrano] Let us now talk about your visit to our country. We imagine that even though this is a private

visit you must have made contacts in different areas. With regard to businesses—which as a businessmen you must be very much interested in—have you already established some direct contacts with Chilean entrepreneurs?

[Wasmosy] That's right, and in several areas of the country's economy, such as Chile's industry, production, and exports, which are a showcase for us. Those businessmen I established contacts with are friends of mine. I have known them for a considerable time, and we are gearing up to embark on joint ventures [previous two words in English] with Paraguayan businessmen. I intend to come back to Chile in October to materialize projects in which Chile and Paraguay can easily cooperate with a view to entering the Mercosur [Common Market of the South]. We have much to offer and supply to this common market, in a competitive way.

[Cerrano] Mr. President, we would like to thank you for your visit, albeit short, to our program "24 Horas." The subjects we have discussed have nonetheless been very interesting and profound. Thank you once again, and good night.

[Wasmosy] Thank you. I do hope that Chileans may resign themselves—let us say, have the courage and the strength to withstand—the floods currently reported in the southern part of the country, and I would like to congratulate the Chilean people for the scientific achievement attained with the surgery on the Siamese twin babies. Chile is, as usual, on the leading edge of technology. My best wishes to all the Chilean people.

Portugal's Soares on Castro, Ibero-American Summit

PY1307204293 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2111 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Santiago, 12 Jul (EFE)—Portuguese President Mario Soares on 12 July stressed that Cuban President Fidel Castro must guarantee that there will be a change in Cuba because "until now, he has not given any guarantees." Soares, who is in Chile on an official visit, termed Cuba a "bleak problem."

He referred to the poverty and the deprivation the Cuban people are experiencing, and he emphasized that everything is the result of a dictatorship—"Fidel Castro's dictatorship."

During a luncheon given by the National Press Association of Chile, Soares referred to the Cuban Revolution and to people such as Castro and Che Guevara, who are known throughout the world, especially in the United States and Europe.

The Portuguese president indicated that if Castro wants to receive international support, then he must guarantee that there will be a political change in Cuba, "but until the present time he has not given it."

Regarding the Ibero-American Summit, Soares assured that despite the new difficulties that have emerged in the American subcontinent and the world, the fact that the third summit is being held is an advance.

Soares acknowledged that the situation does not allow for great expectations to emerge from any discernible results, but the fact that there are talks between governments that have led to greater integration are an achievement in themselves.

Soares will conclude his official visit to Chile on 14 July and will travel with Chilean President Patricio Aylwin to the opening of the Third Ibero-American Summit that will be held in the Brazilian city of Salvador.

Court Approves Nicolas Escobar's Expulsion

PY1307194593 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpt] The Santiago Appellate Court has unanimously rejected the temporary restraining order request by the lawyer of Nicolas Escobar Urquijo, nephew of Colombian drug trafficker Pablo Escobar Gaviria. The request sought to overturn the government decree canceling the 90-day tourist permit granted to Nicolas Escobar and his family in early June.

The Appellate Court fully agreed with the Interior Ministry, which stated that it is neither fitting nor desirable for Escobar Urquijo and his family to remain in Chile.

Interior Ministry Lawyer Manuel Guzman Vial explained:

[Begin recording] Their close relationship with the Medellin Cartel, and especially with Roberto Escobar Gaviria, has been proven. It has also been established that they are economically dependent, having admitted that they live on money from Roberto Escobar. [end recording]

Colombia

EL TIEMPO Editorial on G-7 Summit Agreement

PA1407140293 Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Jul 93 p 2A

[Editorial: "A Good Start in Tokyo"]

[Text] The agreement in principle signed in Tokyo is news we did not expect, particularly so soon. The question Colombians now ask is to what extent do issues being discussed by the Group of 7 [G-7] affect our trade. Colombia must wait until the second round of GATT meetings to start—based on what is being perfected as a possible agreement among underdeveloped nations—discussions concerning import and export regulations for GATT member countries. It is not wise to harbor too many hopes for the time being, although we may think the floodgates have been opened to raise many tariffs.

Obviously, our products will be sent abroad and other products will arrive on our market to increase the open market policy.

National industries that can sell their products in other markets must begin to make their own favorable conditions so they may have a chance of competing in terms of quality, price, and other aspects in the exchange battle, which will undoubtedly increase in a noticeable way. It is truly a challenge, but the world is more and more full of challenges in every type of activity: Technological, commercial, political—even the interventionism proposed by some international groups. This has become the common formula to solve internal conflicts that threaten international security.

World trade is still dominated by two countries: The United States and Japan. Naturally, this has resulted in controversies at the Tokyo meeting but, regardless of the outcome, we must accept the fact that these powers have in their hands not only the destiny of their own citizens but also that of other countries' citizens. Whatever agreements or disagreements they reach will have obvious repercussions. That is why the world views with expectation the Tokyo meeting, which is taking giant steps toward the implementation of a new worldwide commercial exchange doctrine. Colombia's future, as well as that of Latin America, Europe, and Asia, will feel the influence of the decisions adopted at the G-7 meeting.

May the god of understanding and kindness enlighten the people who negotiate agreements that, without exaggeration, may be termed very important. These agreements may either be beneficial or, quite the contrary, very detrimental to the Third World.

Petroleum Enterprise Reports Decreasing Oil Revenues

PA1407035493 Santa Fe de Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish 9 Jul 93 p 1A

[Text] Revenues from oil exports during the first six months of 1993 dropped while imports increased. A report by the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise, Ecopetrol, states that during the first six months of 1993 it exported 27 million barrels of crude oil and by-products worth $423.8 million. Sales abroad during that same period in 1992 amounted to 30.7 million barrels worth $465.3 million.

On the other hand, imports for the six-month period amounted to 6.3 million barrels, mainly of gasoline, worth $135.6 million. In the first six months of 1992, 4.9 million barrels worth $114.7 million were imported.

Ecuador

President Duran-Ballen Resolves 'Cabinet Crisis'

PA1307131893 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1203 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] President Sixto Duran-Ballen on 12 July resolved the cabinet crisis that he created over a week ago. Four changes were made within the cabinet: Marcelo Santos replaces Roberto Dunn at the Government Ministry; Cesar Robalino replaces Mario Ribadeneira at the Finance Ministry; Montserrat Butina replaces Mariana Argudo at the Social Welfare Ministry; and Jorge Garcia replaces Mauricio Pinto at the Industry Ministry.

Several sectors have expressed the view that the crisis was resolved by establishing a balance between the two sides in conflict. The visible leaders of the conflict were removed. Mario Ribadeneira and Roberto Dunn denied the existence of a conflict, but did not refrain from expressing their points of view.

Paraguay

Senate Approves U.S. Participation in Antidrug Campaign

PY1307232893 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 13 Jul 93 p 5

[Text] The following reports that drug traffickers are still using our country as a bridge and within the framework of a joint struggle, U.S. AWACS planes will arrive in Asuncion. These planes are equipped with radar capable of detecting all planes entering or leaving our territory. This announcement was made yesterday by General Marcial Samaniego, chairman of the Senad [National Antidrug Secretariat]. Moreover, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has ruled in favor of the entry of U.S. troops.

President Andres Rodriguez yesterday morning received Gen. Samaniego, the Senad chief, at the Government Palace. Later, when asked about the announced U.S. participation, the general said that there is talk of a U.S. delegation arriving on 25 July. He said that, as far as he knows, well-equipped planes will come to Asuncion to verify the activities of all types of planes within our territory. He said that the equipment will also scan Bolivian and Brazilian territories to gather all possible information, which will later be handed over to national officials.

He added that Asuncion will be the base of operations, and that border zones will also be overflown. He explained that the crews total about 30. He said that the entry of such a delegation must be authorized by the legislative branch.

Gen. Samaniego added that he informed the president on the success of the agricultural diversification program implemented in the zone of Capitan Bado. He said that

through this plan, which consists in getting peasants interested in planting agricultural products instead of marijuana, good results have been achieved and marijuana plantations have been reduced by 50 percent.

When asked if the program reveals that those farmers were growing marijuana, the general said: "We cannot say that. We know it is a red zone, but we cannot say that all 84 farmers were involved in marijuana growing."

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday issued a ruling favorable to the U.S. Embassy request, which was submitted through the executive branch, for the entry of a U.S. military plane of the E-3 AWACS type, with about 47 U.S. Armed Forces troops, to verify possible air routes used by traffickers.

Senator Jose Felix Fernandez Estigarribia, the president of the aforementioned committee, said that Paraguayan officials will request that a local specialized antinarcotics police force accompanies the uniformed U.S. group on its maneuvers.

Venezuela

Foreign Minister Comments on Haitian Situation, Peru

PA1407135293 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 6 Jul 93 p 1-15

[Text] Venezuela and the countries that are friends of Haiti will maintain a "very active role" so that the plan signed by Haitian military leader Raoul Cedras and deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide will be implemented in the best possible way. The plan is aimed at restoring the democratic system in Haiti.

This was stated by Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa Antich, who spoke to reporters briefly during the 5 July military parade on Los Proceres Avenue.

The foreign minister believes this plan has opened new possibilities within the current state of Haiti's democracy. He said that it means that the agreements signed by Cedras and Aristide can become a reality.

Ochoa Antich hopes that with the signing of this proposal, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide can return to office "at the end of October."

Undoubtedly, this is a victory for Venezuelan diplomacy, which has been very consistent in its support for democracy not only in Haiti, but throughout Latin America as an objective of our foreign policy, Ochoa Antich said.

The foreign minister said that Venezuela's position on Guatemala is similar to the one adopted with regard to the Haitian problem.

He ruled out any type of economic aid for Haiti for the time being and emphasized that the embargo will continue while the points established in the agreements are implemented.

He indicated that diplomatic relations with Peru "have been completely normalized." He announced that the Venezuelan Consul in Lima has taken steps to implement this and that he has been promoted to the level of charge d'affaires during the process to appoint Horacio Arteaga as the new ambassador.